Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-91-216 *7 November 1991*

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Cuba

Havana Notes Gates CIA Director Confirmation

FL0611161591 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] On 5 November, the U.S. Senate confirmed 48-year-old Robert Gates as director of the Central Intelligence Agency. The Senate investigation of Gates' previous political and professional activities was extensive, particularly his role in the Iran-Contra scandal while acting as the director of the previously mentioned spy organization. Up to his confirmation, the new CIA director served as deputy assistant to the President for National Security Council.

PCC Urges 'Severity' Against Economic Crimes

PA0611193891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2233 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Text] Havana, 5 Nov (EFE)—In the wake of the Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC), party leaders have stepped up calls for "severity" in the application of laws against economic crimes and the punishment of those responsible for diverting staple products to the black market.

In the eastern city of Santiago de Cuba, PCC Politburo Member Jose R. Machado Ventura said that the necessary spirit will be generated in the country to eliminate all forms of paternalism. He announced that meetings will be held throughout the island to discuss such crimes.

Machado Ventura said that the battle against criminal activities and the black market "will leave no room to escape punishment" and will "allow problems to be solved at the source by means of direct confrontation of crime."

"This situation will force every Cuban to take a stance, so the true revolutionary will be more firm, demanding, and loyal to the goal of unmasking opportunists, while cowards will either move to the sidelines, or go over to the enemy," Machado Ventura said during a meeting held to discuss economic crimes and how to prevent them.

The communist leader said that measures announced by the authorities "to eradicate the consequences of the underground economy must be rigorously applied in any organization, agency, or work center where antisocial behavior is manifested."

In Machado's opinion, a primary objective is to avoid waste through supervision of resources and raw material.

Meanwhile, he acknowledged that the limitations imposed by the country's difficult economic situation promote an increase in criminal activities to the detriment of state interests. He said that personal gain is one of the most frequent motives for such crimes.

Machado said that any reluctance to apply disciplinary measures or to retain in administrative posts persons implicated in or responsible for embezzlement is "inconceivable." He said that secondary factors such as the circulation of money should be taken into account.

Similarly, during a conference with the National Agricultural, Livestock, and Forestry Workers Union, Pedro Ross Leal, secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, said that any worker who steals from a work center should not only be dismissed, but also subjected to the harshest of measures.

"We cannot be paternalistic with someone who steals," he said, "much less allow unscrupulous people to handle food or other resources. This is a battle that should be headed by the labor union."

* Robaina Discusses UJC Activities, Objectives

92CA0013A Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 15 Sep 91 pp 8-9

[Interview with Roberto Robaina, first secretary of Union of Young Communists (UJC), by Arleen Rodriguez Derivet; place and date not given]

[Text] Even as Europe was questioning the survival of socialism, half a million young people went out into the streets of Havana to reaffirm its validity on the island. During a year in which the country has known the harshest economic restrictions ever, they dared to organize the so-called peaceful summer.

[Rodriguez Derivet] Why is the UJC [Union of Young Communists] so successful with plans that seem to buck the trends?

[Robaina] Perhaps it is because we like to look for the good in things, the silver lining. Perhaps we are shortsighted when it comes to obstacles.

We learned this from Fidel, an expert on optimism. While some believe the world is coming to an end, we have a thousand reasons for demonstrating that it is neither coming to an end nor about to fall on our heads.

That is how the idea of the "peaceful summer" came about. When it became apparent that there were fewer resources and facilities for recreation, we set about showing that it was possible and we ended up confirming that we had much more than we thought, but were simply not using it properly. And do you know why? Because we do many things as the organizers think we should rather than as those directly affected want. The "peaceful summer" taught us to make the most of those ideas and I think that calling it "peaceful" worked in the midst of hard times. People needed an upbeat proposal. When I say "people," I am thinking about all the people because we do not do things for young people alone.

When we decided to organize another event this year, some of our comrades suggested calling it "the second peaceful summer," but that would have been too easy.

Nothing we do one year should be like what we did the year before. The summer of '91 had no reason to be like the summer of '90. We must always adapt to the times in which we live.

The School of Journalism offered us three themes and we chose "I Want Green" because that was the true color of a summer in which summer and work would be blended as never before. The notion of "peaceful" had to be extended to the entire country, while the "green" element signifies that we must continue what we can throughout the year.

With the resources we still have and the existing structures, there remains much more to be done. The mission which Fidel entrusted to the UJC of acting as an electric prod consists precisely in seeing that these structures function.

As a rule, we now have a better understanding than we did during any of the previous phases, and it is not the same in all provinces or all districts of the capital, but it has enabled us to extend our ideas much further.

This has been another advantage of the "green" element, that every place gives the color its own shading. If I were to single out sensational responses, I would point to Villa Clara and Cienfuegos, first of all, followed by Ciego de Avila and Las Tunas. What is so great about their contribution is that they took up the idea without copying.

Speaking of copying, the reporters who went with the National Bureau on its three complete tours of the country said upon their return that tremendous things were being done in the provinces during the Special Period, but that they were not all original. Rather, one can still observe mechanical copying of ribbons worn in the hair and slogans promoted in the capital without their being adapted to local circumstances. Moreover, many rank-and-file committees have still not even remotely assimilated the new style of the UJC.

Look, if we have gone no further than we have today, it is perhaps because we still have leaders who copy, who have not totally understood the concept on which changes are based. However, I am confident this will pass. The only advantage of copying is that in the long run, one discovers how unreal it is. If there is no assimilation, if one does not interpret and truly feel a system and way of working, copying can get one through for a time, but one later self-destructs.

My greatest concern today is copying from one another, among our own organizations. After all, a Pioneer is not the same as a university student, nor are an intellectual and a blue-collar worker alike.

I have recently emphasized that the time for "adding on" has passed and that we have now reached the stage of creating. Every age, every occupation, has its own way of expressing itself and we must know how to respond to them with originality. Our rank-and-file organizations must work more along those lines. To the extent that they are different from the rest and similar to what they in essence are, their members will feel better and enjoy the pride of being themselves. No two factories or schools are alike and every single thing that distinguishes one from the other will elevate the sense of belonging that in the long run is the meaning of being Cuban. After all, one cannot love one's country in the abstract, but rather, only by loving one's own little part of it.

We are responsible for making the people proud to live where they do, work where they work, study where they study. We must make sure that every single dawn brings a renewed desire to go back, break with the routine and generate new motivation. No one can live without motivation. We must make people's lives interesting and varied.

After all, just think: In order to overcome, one has to be willing to die, but naturally, what we truly have to do is live.

Shall I give you a very simple example? The two provinces that have done the most for the recreation of young people are the very ones with the best results on the BET [Student Labor Brigades].

In other words, we must generate enthusiasm, but creatively, because in a factory, young people will always be the young people of that factory and none other.

[Rodriguez Derivet] But not everyone accepts this.

[Robaina] I said before that we are living at the best possible time in terms of understanding what we want to do. Nevertheless, there are still intermediate levels which, instead of helping, make everything more difficult and continue to view any proposal of ours as "something the UJC wants to do to ingratiate itself."

We cannot allow ourselves to tire. No matter what this signifies in terms of effort or sacrifice and work meetings, it can never be greater than what is being done by young people and the people in general. If there is one thing I fear today, it is that the UJC will not be capable of representing our young people.

[Rodriguez Derivet] But what about power? Some say your group has been able to change many things because you are in power. You are the first youth leader with a post on the party's Politburo.

[Robaina] I have been in power since the age of 3! I came to power without even realizing it, as part of the people who took power by force in 1959. But it is not Roberto Robaina who is a member of the Politburo. Rather, it is a whole generation that did not ask for a place, but rather, earned it, completing missions at home and abroad, in the mountains, Angola, Ethiopia, and Nicaragua. It is a generation that will not be held back.

I do indeed believe I have an enormous privilege: leading the Communist Youth during a phase that is decisive for the country, at a time when taking to the streets to

defend the revolution, sometimes with no other weapon than the pure joy of living, is decisive. I think this exceptional time for the people of Cuba is what has given young people the motivation and leadership they now have.

[Rodriguez Derivet] And yet, there are many who fear that when you are done with the UJC, it will lose the vigor and freshness that have turned it around during the recent period.

[Robaina] I repeat: "Robertico" can do nothing by himself. Robertico is just one more person in a group of people determined to do things better and motivated by a desire to do them perfectly. Behind that team is what is most important: a plan, an idea, as the provinces have demonstrated. There you have Miguelito, Santa, Viqui. You do not have Robertico or Roberto Garcia or Contino. You do not have the National Bureau, but look how much has been accomplished!

[Rodriguez Derivet] When you speak of a plan, an idea, you are probably referring to changing concepts of the work of the UJC, beginning with the organization's very way of presenting itself. Some speculate that there may even be a change in the logo, with the images of Mella, Camilo, and Che.

[Robaina] Well, it would be very superficial to reduce changes in the UJC to the way it presents itself. I would like to make it clear that our changes are not changes in principle and therefore have nothing to do with the logo or the images of Mella, Camilo, and Che, who are more present than ever in the attitude of the young people themselves. If we now have young people who carry them with them in their daily conduct, it is precisely due to a change in the way we try to draw nearer to them, trying to reach them through our hearts, our feelings, rather than through images. I think that what we have done is take them out of the logo and internalize them.

Our changes in the presentation of the UJC express the content of substantive changes and are simply an attempt to adapt ourselves more to the times in which we live.

Some may be confused by the more external aspect, our presentation or festive events, but we do much more than that in the UJC. Here we spend hour after hour discussing topics of vital interest to the country with young scientists, teachers, and artists. No one would ever think of summoning 30,000 young people to the beaches or the piers to hold debates! Because of their very seriousness, such discussions should, in order to make a real contribution, be held under different conditions. They have never ceased, however, and are part of the assembly process of the Sixth Congress of the UJC.

Now we also have the beginning of a working team similar to what the People's Camps were initially. It will take it upon itself to set up discotheques and develop new ideas on recreation so that the UJC may devote its energies to purely political work.

[Rodriguez Derivet] Some young people, mainly university students and workers, complain that many of the UJC's activities are not suited to their ages, that the 20-30 age bracket receives less attention, particularly insofar as recreation is concerned.

[Robaina] Well, I am deeply committed to making sure the UJC represents young working people in the manner they deserve. The first thing we must do is break the mold and stop differentiating between the various groups, between the miners, farmers, and artists, for example. They are all workers that whole young sector in which we feel the greatest lack of satisfaction in their evaluation of our work.

We must admit that in this phase, we give priority to those between the ages of 13 and 20 because, due to institutional inadequacies and those of the UJC itself, we thought they were too big to be treated like children, yet we did not treat them like adults either. As a result, even though, precisely because of its age, that sector needed us the most, it was the least understood and least integrated into our activities. As a result, the most massive activities of the recent period have been directed toward it, even though such activities were not restricted to that age group or exclusively for young people.

Let there be no confusion, however. While we drew closer to that age group, in a less public and perhaps more anonymous fashion, we were waging a battle to bring about changes in the attention paid to young workers, changes they may interpret as the result of just one more guideline, but which are in fact the fruit of many hours of reflection in conjunction with the institutions and agencies that lead them.

Meetings in SIME [Steelworking Industry], with MINBAS [Ministry of Basic Industry] and Light Industry, the National Bureau's meeting with Fidel, the debate of a group of young people with almost all the ministers and agency heads, reported in this very newspaper as "All Questions Have Answers," have helped convey questions, concerns, and disagreement to the country's highest leaders. Progress has also been made in our country in terms of the promotion of young people to leadership posts, in debate on promotion rosters, respect and recognition for new talent in art and sports, modifications in education, all these the fruit of behind-the-scenes work, as in the case of the vast assemblies on the beaches or in the Plaza, work not seen but confirming that our organization is more than just parties and fun. Rather, it is above all interest in responding to the interests of Cuban young people.

As far as recreation is concerned, we have also had the possibility, with the resources available, of first meeting the needs of younger children, but this does not mean we have forgotten or ignored the demands and needs of the older age group. We shall also concern ourselves with them, but when there is a shortage of resources, priorities have to be set.

[Rodriguez Derivet] When this change in style was first implemented, some UJC cadres did not understand it. Now, however, it is common to see, at least on the National Committee, people working constantly and with no disagreement. The same people who do the wave at the stadium go to Paradise (UJC farm camp), set up discotheques or engage in political discussions on a grass-roots committee. Are these the special cadres that the Special Period needs, in your words?

[Robaina] Leadership of the UJC had always been a matter of machinery and the barriers were finally broken down by Lage. He was first secretary when Fidel urged us to fight that evil. I think it was one of the first places where analysis was encouraged in order to achieve an integrated leadership. The result is that today, one can say that is not even any National Bureau. Everyone feels a part of what we do, even the reporters who routinely work with us and who are a most valuable source of feedback.

You have to see what happens whenever we begin or end a program (such as the summer programs, for example). This office is filled with people giving ideas or going over and over what did not turn out as we had hoped. Nor is it just professional cadres from the UJC or young people that one sees.

Our greatest source of satisfaction is this collective participation, which may even include passers-by apparently unrelated to our work. A few days ago, a man came to see us to say that he had never imagined that our national committee would have a lobby like that of any big company, that he had always thought we would have a separate entrance for the people. This means that people recognize and appreciate our work. When you do things out of love, you never get tired of doing them. That is the secret of the special cadres required by the Special Period. Not all of them are in that category, but the majority are indeed.

[Rodriguez Derivet] The UJC has said it does not want to greet the Fourth Party Congress.

[Robaina] Greet it, no; feel with it, yes. That is why we say: "This is our party's Youth." The phrase emerged at a time when some insisted on viewing us as an alternative to the party. We responded in this way: that it is a different way of saying the same thing: "I will be loyal to you."

We can be bold, have differing opinions and judgments, because that same party, the generation that founded it and trained us, taught us to have our own opinions. However, this in no way alienates us from the party. On the contrary, at a time when some hastened to purge their record of service to the party, we preferred to fill ours.

We shall demonstrate our feelings of loyalty and membership by participating—there is a large number of young candidates and direct delegates—and by presenting specific proposals about how we wish to continue being the Youth of the party, what we want from the party, and why we have confidence in the party.

The UJC goes into the congress with a whole series of issues of deep concern to it which we first debated during our discussion of the invitation, but it is not a series of proposals. Rather, these are merely issues that we are ready to bring up. No issue discussed at the congress will be foreign to us.

[Rodriguez Derivet] Many people hoped for radical changes.

[Robaina] I am convinced that no meeting, however important it may be, will bring about fundamental changes in a society. In fact, the most radical path ever taken by Cuba was not decided upon at a congress, and young people today could not have participated in it because most of them had not even been born! The changes that Cuba needs we must propose ourselves and actively participate in them. We cannot stand idly by and wait for them to happen. In practice, we are already promoting them.

We previously mentioned changes within the UJC. When they are viewed independently, we cannot see that we are a part of changes that have steadily taken place in Cuba for the past 30 years, growing more intense and faster ever since the process of rectifying errors and negative tendencies began. Consequently, we are not an isolated, single entity. With our own peculiarities, we are an expression and an effect of a much larger and deeper process.

[Rodriguez Derivet] You stated that at one point, there were those who viewed the UJC as an alternative to the party. In the foreign press in particular, there was at one time much speculation and an attempt to pit you against the historic leaders of the revolution. How do you view those who were our same age when the revolution triumphed?

[Robaina] For those who have carried the torch so far, we can only feel admiration, respect, and love, primarily because of the courage this required and second, for laying the foundations. That same feeling extends to those now carrying on their work. They are sacred to me because they are my country's history and the history of a country determines its survival. That is why I always emphasize the need to save, enrich, and have a better understanding of our history, heroes, and roots.

When we evaluate that history, we must do so with a feeling of profound love that will enable us to measure men properly in relation to their time. They were the result of a time and a particular set of circumstances. They did their duty with honor. That is what we must now do in our own time.

I also think that the greatest virtue of our generation is to be like them in terms of their rebellious, critical spirit, while at the same time remaining profoundly committed to the revolution.

[Rodriguez Derivet] Would it be very difficult for you to speak of Fidel in particular?

[Robaina] It is indeed difficult, but that is a question I would like very much to answer. I do not wish to engage in mere rhetoric that would distance him from me when we have had such a close working relationship. He has demonstrated so much respect for what we do, has been so frank and stimulating!

Even now, when I start to talk to him, I get very nervous and almost feel inhibited, but I know that in 10 or 15 minutes, I will win his trust and feel more secure. I do not want anyone to think this is a blind passion because he has never portrayed himself as an untouchable person; on the contrary. Like any other human being, he can joke or feel uncomfortable or be as happy as a child. He is a person who, when he does not agree with you, allows you to argue.

When I am with him, I realize I am seeing so much history concentrated in a person that what I truly feel is a desire to tell the people what Fidel is like when he is working, who that person, whom we have had the privilege of knowing and being with, is.

Along the way, criticism has come from all sides, and in the beginning some people did not understand what we were doing. However, from the very first time he was with us, he has always been the first and prime defender of what we were doing.

In those activities, you have to see the trust, love, and respect that Fidel has for young people. I wanted to shout at them: "Jesus Christ! Look how much Fidel loves and respects us," but I realize there is no need. They feel it, too.

[Rodriguez Derivet] The country is now going through what may be its most difficult time ever. Many friends have stopped being friends and some are even trying to sell us out. In the meantime, the enemy grows stronger, convinced we will never survive with our stores empty.

[Robaina] I think we have already gone through equally difficult times and faced them with less preparation. We are now prepared for more difficult times and although it will not be easy, we can see a way out thanks to experience and the enormous reserve of talent and courage that Cuba has. Experience, talent, and courage are a national product not dependent on imports.

Moreover, above and beyond my aversion to the apocalyptic feelings of some, I am not among those who believe that problems can be solved by having the shelves full. There are too many examples of full shelves and empty stomachs and hearts. I do not think we have to resign ourselves to living with empty shelves, but I do think we must try to fill them with our hearts brimming over with dignity and respect. Spritual values can save a society and must be preserved at all costs, just as we must preserve hope and the ability to fight without losing our joy.

[Rodriguez Derivet] What thoughts do you have about being part of a generation which, as one can see by your words, bears such decisive responsibility for the fate of your country?

[Robaina] We are a generation born at a time when many questions had already been answered. The years we have lived only confirm the fact that many of those responses remain valid. The revolution, of which we are all a part, has continued to find new responses along the way. Today it is a matter of not remaining outside the search for new responses to all the questions of life. We must not get ahead of the front line or lag behind it. We wish only to be a part of the vanguard, particularly since the number of those attacking us has grown so large.

Youth Leader Robaina Heads Delegation to Spain

FL0711033291 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0050 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Report by Radio Havana Cuba Special Correspondent Pedro Martinez Pires from Barcelona, Spain, on the "Exclusivo" program—live]

[Text] Cuban youth leader Roberto Robaina, a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], is expected to arrive in Barcelona tomorrow. He is to preside over the closing on 10 November of the All Cuba [Cuba Integral] exhibit, which opened 31 October in the Permanent Exhibit Center at the Pueblo Espanol on Montjuic. In Barcelona, Robaina will fulfill a busy agenda of activities which will include meetings with the main Catalonian authorities, youth and political party leaders, reporters, intellectuals, and the businessmen who have made this great and very successful Cuban exhibit in Barcelona possible.

The Cuban exhibit, which includes about 80 exhibitors from more than 30 sectors of Cuban development, covers an area of 1,750 square meters in the Permanent Exhibit Center of Catalonia, which is one of Spain's most important exhibition facilities. The Cuban delegation is mainly composed of young Cuban scientists, doctors, athletes, businessmen, cultural representatives, and youth and student leaders.

The delegation, which has conducted an intense program of activities throughout Catalonia includes three members of the new PCC Central Committee who were elected during the recent Fourth PCC Congress held in Santiago de Cuba. They are family doctor Vladimir Diaz; delegate Teresita Garcia; and Alberto Juantorena, the vice president of the National Sports, Physical Education, and Recreation Institute and double Olympic Champion at the 1976 Montreal Games.

Last night, Spanish television channel five featured an extensive interview with Cuban leader Roberto Robaina. A few days ago, Catalonian television channel three also featured an interview with Robaina.

Acclaimed Colombian writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez arrived in Barcelona two days ago. He was present in Cozumel on 23 October during the meeting of the presidents of Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela which was also attended by Cuban President Fidel Castro, as a special guest.

The Second Congress of the Confederation of Construction and Wood Industry Workers of Catalonia was held during this same period and was attended by the members of the Cuban Juan Carlos Martinez and Alberto Dural Contingents. This congress rejected the U.S. embargo against Cuba, demanded the unconditional withdrawal from the yankee base in Guantanamo, and made a call to collect funds and send a vessel loaded with needed articles and goods to Cuba next year. According to observers, the massive presence of Cuban citizens and the large exhibit opened at the Pueblo Espanol in Barcelona—which by the way was visited last night by the Catalonian minister of health—constitutes one of the most important demonstrations of solidarity with the Cuban revolution ever held in Spain.

Havana Urban Bus Schedules Cut, Reorganized

FL0611145691 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1306 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] The implementation of a reorganization plan for urban buses in Havana has already begun. It is hoped that the implementation of the plan will produce greater service effiency in accordance with the resources available. Efforts are being made to have the plan in place by the beginning of 1992.

The plan will try to get travelers to their destinations quicker with shorter layovers on heavier traveled schedules as well as reducing consumption of fuel, tires, and spare parts among other resources.

For this plan to work, three route catagories will be created. The rapid express will link outlying regions with heavily used work and study areas of greater Havana. Another category will be the prime routes. These routes will be maintained as they are with certain modifications. Some examples would be 22, 68, 174, 2, and 4. The third category is regular or intermediary routes. This is where the vast majority of daily transportation will fall. These routes provide service for a large number of passengers.

Manufactured Gas Outages Caused by Breakdowns

FL0711020991 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Text] Intense work is being done to restore manufactured gas service throughout Havana as soon as possible. This was reported by Zulema Lopez, chief specialist at the Evelio Rodriguez Curbelo de Villanu Plant. After three days of breakdowns in the steam boilers, it had been planned to start up the factory early this morning without any problems. This was impossible due to further breakdowns in that equipment. The serious harm done to production during these four days has made it impossible to keep high levels of gas in reserve. Engineer Lopez has stated that gas service will be restored gradually throughout the city.

Commentary on U.S. Provocations at Guantanamo

PA0611135691 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Nov 91

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] The strengthening of the U.S. military presence on Guantanamo Naval base, the war exercises in the territory occupied by the United States against the will of the Cuban people, and the increase in the number of provocations originating from there are making evident the importance that Washington is assigning to that enclave within the framework of its anti-Cuban plans.

Recently there have been more violations of Cuban airspace with total disregard for the consequences that such actions could have, including armed confrontation.

When Pentagon officials said in September 1991 that its forces will remain at Guantanamo despite the Soviet announcement of the withdrawal of the Soviet contingents from the island, these officials already had in mind the war exercises that have been denounced by the Cuban daily GRANMA.

We must remember that the naval base in eastern Cuba does not have all the facilities that are required for a modern war, but despite this, Washington continues to usurp the area to use it as a beachhead for its aggression against Cuba.

As long as this hostile disposition continues, Cuba cannot believe claims about a new political disposition in international relations. Talk of a philosophy of international solidarity, of dissolving ideological ties between countries, and of decreased tension have no practical support, at least in the Caribbean.

The truth is that at a time when it is believed that the Cold War is over and that the East-West confrontation has ended, the United States uses its policy of gunboat diplomacy whenever it addresses Cuba, one of the nations that has reaffirmed its adherence to socialism, regardless of other countries reneging on that philosophy.

Cuba is learning lessons. Increased tension between the two countries justify Cuba's precautionary measures to each day improve its defense mechanisms.

Mexican Soap Factory Sells to Enterprise

FL0711031191 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0007 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Report by Nora Rodriguez Calzadilla on the "Exclusive" program]

[Text] The Ninth International Havana Fair has resulted in the signing of agreements between participating countries and companies. Thus, I can say that Cuba and Mexico, through the Cuban enterprise Consumimport [Cuban Enterprise for Importing General Consumer Goods] and the Mexican Mariano Salgado Soap Factory, are drawing up agreements to import to Cuba a new line of multiple-use soaps which will soon be available for use by our people. I spoke at Expocuba on this subject with Amadeo Marichalar Gonzalez, the national sales director at the Mexican soap factory.

[Begin recording] [Marichalar] Beginning in January, we have been exporting our products through Consumimport, which is the purchasing enterprise in Cuba. What we plan to do is sign a contract which will guarantee the supply of soap for 1992. We have noticed that our brand has had good acceptance among the Cuban public. It makes us very happy that it has satisfied the people's needs.

[Rodriguez] Does the agreement with Cuba include bath soap or does it also include laundry soaps like these that I see here?

[Marichalar] At the beginning it included laundry soap and then bath soap, and now we are working on a formula for a multiple-use soap which can be used for washing clothes as well as for bathing. [end recording]

The specialist of the Mexican Mariano Salgado Soap Factory explained that the new line of Azteca-Ibis multiple-use soap is neutralized with coconut oil. The first sale to our country has already been made for use by the Cuban people.

Efforts To Improve Colombian Relations Continue

FL0711134291 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Text] Various aspects of the recently resumed bilateral relations were broached, in Bogota, by Colombian Foreign Minister Luis Jaramillo and Cuban General Consul Omar Morales. Jaramillo received Morales in a special audience. Morales commented that the meeting was friendly and with great understanding. Morales said that the conversation with Jaramillo dealt mainly with the steps needed to improve relations between the two countries.

Brazilian Peace Group Meets Montane Oropesa

FL0711021091 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Text] Members of the Brazilian Union for Peace and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean have met with Jesus Montane Oropesa, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. The Brazilian delegation, which has been visiting our country for several days, is here on a mission of a political nature and to exchange views with the Cuban Government. They are satisfying their interest in finding out about our situation, and they have expressed that their presence is also a demonstration of solidarity during these difficult times for Cuba.

In a climate of warm friendship, the visitors said that they were pleased by what they had seen up to now, and that they had been particularly amazed by the beauty and quality of the National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology.

At their meeting with Central Committee member Jesus Montane Oropesa, delegation members Dr. (Selman Vargas) and Dr. (Jose Felipe Ledur) handed over two messages of solidarity with the Cuban people and greetings to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. Both messages had been sent by the Rio Grande do Sul Association of Brazilian Labor Lawyers and the Union of Workers of Rio Grande do Sul State.

First Amsterdam-Holguin Nonstop Flight Arrives

FL0611025291 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] A new route for tourist flights between Cuba and the Netherlands was inaugurated [words indistinct]. The Amsterdam-Holguin flight route was inaugurated with the arrival of the Boeing-767 plane at the Frank Pais Airport in Holguin. Approximately 200 Dutch tourists traveled aboard this plane at the beginning of the winter season. The tourists' final destinations are the Guarda la Vaca beach in Holguin, Varadero, Santa Lucia in the northern part of Camaguey, and other tourist resorts in other provinces. The Cubanacan Corporation welcomed the visitors and expressed their wishes that they have a pleasant stay in our country.

[Begin unidentified spokesman recording] All Dutch want to visit the Cuban beaches and beauty. Through the Intur, Cubatour, and Cubanacan organizations we have been able to offer the beauty of Holguin Province to Dutch travelers and also to Germans living in northern Germany. It is more convenient for them to use the ultra-modern facilities of the Amsterdam Airport to travel non-stop to Holguin. [end recording]

The new route from Amsterdam joins flights from Austria and Germany already arriving non-stop in this province.

Health Organization Inaugurates New Offices

FL0511220191 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1602 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Text] Vice Minister of Health Julio Tejas has said the Pan American Health Organization [PAHO] will support several Cuban technical health processes. During the inauguration of the new headquarters of the World Health Organization and PAHO in Havana, Tejas also said that these institutions will give special attention to international negotiations, thus providing Cuba access to special unbudgeted accounts.

The site chosen as headquarters for these organizationes is an old house on Fourth Street between 17 and 19 [not further specified] in Vedado. This house was completely renovated by members of the city historian's office and the center of restoration [words indistinct].

PAHO representative in Cuba, Miguel Marquez, thanked the Cuban Government for giving them this building as the permanent site for their offices.

Grenada

Government To Support Intervention in Haiti

FL0711131691 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Text] Grenada's Prime Minister, Nicholas Brathwaite, says his country will support any action, including military intervention, to get Jean-Bertrand Aristide back into the Presidency of Haiti. Mr. Brathwaite issued a statement saying he would support military action so long as the deposed president himself is in favor of it. Mr. Aristide visited Grenada last Friday.

Haiti

Aristide Actively Seeking Caribbean Support

FL0611194591 Bridgetown CANA in English 1902 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Report by Earl Bousquet]

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, Nov 6, CANA—Deposed Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide moved to brush up his image during a November 4-5 visit to St. Lucia. He told St. Lucians he was not afraid of the military while he held office and he is still unafraid. Aristide, ousted by the Army September 30, had been accused of taking a tough line against the Army out of fear. Those who overthrew him claimed he developed his own style of dictatorship. They said he supported violence and ordered the death for former Duvalierist General Roger Lafontant, killed in prison during the September coup.

The outspoken priest was accused too of wanting to establish his own presidential guard, against the wishes of the Army. TIME magazine also quoted Aristide as verbally endorsing, during a presidential address prior to the coup, the practice of "necklacing" the president's enemies.

Aristide dismissed all charges as a smear campaign. He said: "The military told lies to justify the coup. They told lies to justify killing 1,000 people. They killed Lafontant and have been lying to place the blame on me. They have lied in the past and they continue to lie." He complained that the TIME article misquoted him.

Responding to the charges about setting up his own presidential guard, he said: "We were not trying to establish a presidential guard. What we were trying to do was to follow the Constitution and establish a police force that was separate from the Army, but the present police chief refused and offered resistance. It was no personal guard."

Reporters asked the former Haitian leader whether he felt he made a mistake in appointing General Raoul Cedras to head the Army. He said he did not think he made a wrong move: "There had to be cooperation between the people, the government and the Army if Haiti's problems were to be solved," he explained. "I gave him a chance to change his ways and prove himself but after seven months he decided to go right back to the old ways... You see, the corruption in the Army is like a sickness, and Cedras has this sickness in his blood."

The ousted president has been traveling the Caribbean in an effort to drum up support for the restoration of democracy to Haiti. In temporary exile in Venezuela, Aristide has been accorded presidential treatment by the Carlos Andres Perez government.

Since the coup, Aristide has held talks with Presidents George Bush in Washington and Francois Mitterrand in France. He has also met with envoys representing the secretaries general of the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

The Venezuelan Government arranged for him to visit Dominica, St. Lucia, Grenada and St. Kitts and Nevis between November 1 and November 6. He traveled on a special aircraft assigned to him and his travel arrangements were handled by the Venezuelan Ambassador to Haiti.

"I was not afraid for my life when they captured me," Aristide told local reporters, "and I am not afraid now. I believe in democracy and I have no doubt democracy will be restored in Haiti to ensure the protection of human rights."

He appreciates help offered by the international community, including a trade embargo, aimed at restoring democracy in his country, but appears worried about the time it is taking to have him back in Haiti.

During one televised discussion, he said: "Look at how the world responded to the coup of September 30. In the Soviet Union there was a coup that was over in three days with hardly any loss of life. The international community was very interested in what was happening there and in saving lives. But in Haiti, over 1,000 people were killed in less than two weeks while the world looked on. Is that how interested they are in democracy?"

Haiti is an impoverished country with many problems, including corruption and drug use. Aristide likened Haiti to a table. He said: "A small group of people live on top of the table and the vast majority live under the table. When we opened the era of Haiti's "second independence" on February 7, I had one hand on top the table and the other under, trying to bring about peaceful

change and democracy. "But those on the table have been using weapons against those below to remain on top. What we are struggling for is for those on top and those below to sit around that table and eat and live with each other based on mutual respect."

Honorat on OAS Mission, Diplomatic Relations

FL0711030291 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Excerpts] In an interview with a group of journalists on 5 November, Haitian Prime Minister Jean-Jacques Honorat said the executive has assembled a file to be presented to the OAS delegation. According to the prime minister, included in this file are proposals the provisional government will present to the OAS representatives as a solution to the Haitian crisis. Honorat explained that two problems dominate the condition of the country: A juridical problem of international law, and a political problem. Honorat further explained that the OAS delegation will meet with all constitutional authorities in the country and all sectors of civil society. He also discussed the meeting he had with the political parties on the arrival of the OAS delegation.

[Begin recording] [Honorat] Very solid cases have been developed. Proposals have been written because the problem we face is not only a juridical matter of international law, but also a political problem, is it not? These are the two aspects of Haiti's current crisis. We have, therefore, prepared proposals for the OAS, in addition to our solid case. I think each of the other authorities that the mission...[changes thought] The mission will come to meet with all Haitian constitutional authorities, as well as all sectors of civil society. I believe the authorities from all institutions and sectors are preparing cases for the OAS commission. They will be expressing their opinions and explaining how a common solution, acceptable and honorable to all, can be reached.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] you had a meeting with the political leaders. Can you tell us what resulted from this meeting?

[Honorat] The concrete results of this meeting included the establishment of an interparty committee to internally analyze the problem, for the achievement of a common position, one which takes into consideration all the snags and differences within the political class, for the common expression of the Haitian political social body. These proposals are intended to deal with both the juridical and political aspects of the current crisis. They have set up their committee, and are working to hold another meeting of all the political parties again today to fine-tune the document they will present to the OAS mission. [end recording]

The prime minister said a solution must result from the negotiations. He described the embargo as a knife the OAS is holding at Haiti's throat [corrects himself] sorry, at the throat of any country that breaks the principles of the negotiations. The prime minister therefore believes that the embargo cannot continue while the negotiations are in progress. Honorat feels the negotiations will uphold constitutional order and that a solution will be reached within 45 days. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Prime Minister, you recently said that the fuel stock in Haiti would not be exhausted. Do you still stand by this statement today?

[Honorat] Running out of fuel? I don't think we have yet run out of fuel, have we? Well, despite the panic, despite the propaganda that has given rise to the panic...[changes thought] We in the government have established quotas on the delivery of gasoline. We have fixed very strict quotas to avoid running out. I maintain that we will not run out.

[Reporter] Will the vessel carrying petroleum products, whose arrival you had announced will be very soon, still come?

[Honorat] You are asking me now for information I cannot give you, at least not for the moment.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, it is rumored that some countries have officially acknowledged your government? Is that true?

[Honorat] Diplomatic recognition can be achieved in two ways. There is the formal recognition when they announce that they recognize you, and there is tacit recognition. This relates to those countries that had diplomatic relations with Haiti and never formally announced that they do not recognize the government. In these cases, the relations tacitly remain the same. Do you understand? Well, the Latin American countries, [corrects himself] the American countries, signed a formal declaration saying they have cut off relations with the current government. In those cases, no, there is no recognition. We must therefore work for recognition I believe one of the results of the negotiations will be formal recognition. Other countries not located in America, such as France, have declared they do not recognize the government. Well, that is yet another kind of problem that deserves separate attention. In fact, France will not be participating in the negotiations because it is not a member of the OAS. This is then a new kind of diplomatic problem that will be resolved in good time. [passage omitted]

Even though there may be no diplomatic relations with a country that has an embassy here, there is a physical fact that cannot be ignored: The embassy is in the country, and enjoys the right of extraterritoriality. In other words, even though there is no recognition, there is the possibility for correspondence and... [stammers] Certainly, as you know, we have written to the French Embassy. As the ambassador is not quite sure of diplomatic procedure, he has answered indirectly, using an expression that does not exist in the diplomatic rules. This falls within the category of cases with whom we will calmly bide our time. [end recording]

It should be pointed out that the prime minister made these statements yesterday morning at the Legislative Palace at the invitation of senators who had asked for an explanation of the steps taken in response to the country's crisis, and his plans for handling it.

Protests Against Embargo, Aristide, French Envoy

FL0711032791 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Hundreds of people carrying posters marched through the streets of the downtown area this morning to protest the sanctions, considered unfair by certain organizations and political parties, which were imposed by the OAS following the coup d'etat on 30 September. Soldiers surrounded the demonstration.

During this march organized to protest the embargo, the demonstrators also criticized the administration of overthrown President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. In addition to posters denouncing the OAS embargo, bitter slogans were also displayed opposing Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Once the demonstrators arrived in front of the American Embassy, Pastor Antoine Leroy from the Mobilization for National Development read a message.

In their statements, the demonstrators demanded the withdrawal of the OAS embargo, which has already had a negative impact on the population. [passage omitted]

The demonstrators spoke against the return to power of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. In his message, Pastor Leroy criticized the French Embassy in Port-au-Prince. Posters denouncing French Ambassador Jean-Raphael Dufour read: We want democracy but we do not want the return of President Aristide.

That was the general idea of today's demonstration in Port-au- Prince denouncing the OAS embargo against Haiti following the coup against President Aristide on 30 September.

Radio Station Suggests OAS Meeting Conditions

FL0611224891 Barahona Dominican Republic Radio Enriquillo in Creole 1100 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Text] [Words indistinct] According to a Senate source, when the OAS delegation arrives, it will meet with the Army, the self-appointed government, Prime Minister Preval, and representatives of the private sector. Many are wondering how, and through whom, this delegation will hear the voice of the people. Will it be through the illegitimate government or the parliament that pretends to represent the people? The same source tells us that the delegation will remain in Haiti until a solution is found. The people continue to raise questions, wondering what this delegation will bring. Popular opinion seems to be that this delegation should subsequently return to Caracas to negotiate with President Aristide. Is it meant to give legitimacy to the coupists?

Following are suggestions of what we should request from the OAS:

1. The return of President Aristide so he can participate in the negotiations.

2. The people's avalanche movement should be present for consultation, and to stress the rights of the legitimate government. According to the Constitution, only the legitimate government can advise the parliament on cabinet reshuffle. The constitutional order must be restored, not in accordance with the conditions of private or political personalities, but in accordance with the Haitian people's will.

Groups Propose Solutions to Economic Crisis

FL0711002791 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Survival of the Haitian nation is threatened by the embargo imposed by the OAS against Haiti. This is the diagnosis made by the Movement of National Reconstruction [MRN], a component of the Unified Party of Haitian Communists [PUCH]. MRN points out in a communique, co-signed by Rene Theodore, that the immediate effect of the embargo is a worsening of the general misery. According to the MRN, this embargo was promoted by a minority in the political sector, a decision the MRN terms unfair and unjustified.

MRN believes that by imposing this sanction against Haiti, the OAS is violating its own Charter by depriving the Haitian parliament, partial repository of national sovereignty, of its authority. The situation is serious, according to MRN, which asks the provisional government to establish an emergency plan to assist the most deprived groups and, as far as possible, all sectors of the economy that will be affected by the embargo.

The Movement for National Reconstruction emphasizes that the objective of any political action should be to serve the interests of the Haitian people. MRN remains convinced that the solution to the current crisis must be a national one, in conformity with the Constitution, Haitian institutions, and democratic principles. [passage omitted]

Christian Democratic Assembly leader Eddy Volel condemns the stance taken by overthrown President Aristide, who is asking for reinforcement of the embargo against Haiti. Eddy Volel, who opposes the return of Aristide to power, is asking Haitians to rally to the aid of Haitian democracy.

The international organization of political science, Humane Alliance, agrees that the nation's survival is threatened by recent events. This organization calls for compromise. The disasters being experienced should prompt us to compromise to divert political grudges, internal conflicts, and class and ideological controversies.

The Confederation of Haitian Workers [CTH] questions whether the solution lies with negotiations rather than with the embargo. CTH believes that for getting the country out of the current crisis of life-threatening economic catastrophe, as well as the consequences of its retrograde past and secular tradition, it is necessary to overcome sectarianism to reach an historical consensus among all the vital forces in the nation. CTH says that today more than ever, the specter of imminent danger continues to degrade our history because some decisions have already been made at the international level, including measures applied without consideration of the repercussions those decisions could have on the future of a country already so impoverished. CTH considers the embargo another form of intervention which no powerful country has the right to impose, blocking the life and reducing the freedom of an entire nation.

Considering that the embargo affects only the working class and the most deprived sectors, CTH asks the international community, especially OAS, to quickly move ahead with negotiations to find an agreeable, definite solution, keeping in mind the highest interests of the nation and the working class. The Confederation of Haitian Workers reaffirms its commitment to fight on the side of the workers and the Haitian people for a return to constitutional order and effective democracy in Haiti.

'Critical' Fuel Shortage Evident in Country

FL0711130491 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Text] The economic embargo against Haiti, as outlined by the OAS, went into effect yesterday. The most critical shortage on Haiti seems to be fuel. Motorists are lining up at the gasoline stations, which still have fuel to sell, but the pumps are expected to run dry soon unless Haiti gets more deliveries. Many residents have been hoarding gasoline and traffic on the streets is markedly reduced. Most of Haiti's electricity comes from oil-burning generators and estimates are that the country only has about 10 days of fuel left for generation purposes.

Guerrier Replaces Beaufils as Cabinet Head

FL0711014191 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Text] There has been a change at the CHADEL directorate. Herard Jadotte has become the new director of the Haitian Center for Rights and Freedom [CHADEL], replacing Jean-Jacques Honorat who is now head of the provisional government.

There has also been a cabinet reshuffle in the provisional president's cabinet: Arnoux Guerrier has become the new cabinet head, replacing lawyer Georges Beaufils. Arnoux Guerrier is former minister of Social Affairs under the Avril government.

St. Christopher and Nevis

Haiti's Aristide Continues To Preach Nonviolence

FL0611140191 Bridgetown CANA in English 2208 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Text] Basseterre, St. Kitts Nov 5, CANA—Ousted Haitian president, Jean Bertrand Aristide was greeted like a head of state in this small Caribbean Island Tuesday. Aristide lunched with Governor-General Sir Clement Arrindell, then held talks with Prime Minister Kennedy Simmonds who is also chairman of the Caribbean Community [Caricom].

A CANA radio report said Aristide was satisfied with the solidarity shown by Caricom and the international community, which are backing an Organisation of American States trade embargo against the French-speaking nation. He said the people of the Caribbean Community made him feel like a member of the family, but he hoped the effect of the trade embargo would speedily end the crisis in Haiti, allowing him to return home.

"I will continue to preach non-violence," the outspoken priest said. "We will choose from our point of view the best way to do (restore democratic government)." He urged the Haitian people to continue the peaceful resistance against his overthrow.

Aristide was scheduled to visit Puerto Rico, before flying back to Venezuela, his home in exile. He has already visited St. Lucia, Dominica, and Grenada.

El Salvador

FMLN Commander on 'Pendular' Peace Talks

PA0611201291 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] The Salvadoran guerrillas disclosed at the peace negotiations in Mexico City the rebels are holding with the Salvadoran Government representatives that the United Nations presented concrete proposals regarding the Armed Forces.

Rebel Commander Nidia Diaz, in statements to the press, also said that the topic of the Armed Forces is considered one of the most difficult of the Mexico City negotiations. These talks between the FMLN and President Alfredo Cristiani's government began on 4 November. She said that the proposal concerning the Armed Forces was presented by Peruvian Alvaro De Soto, personal representative of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who is also a Peruvian.

Diaz added that this proposal gives the negotiations a pendular characteristic and that Alvaro De Soto will first hold talks with one of the two sides and will then meet with the other side to arrive at an agreement. The source said that De Soto's proposal was well received by the FMLN delegation and was discussed on 5 November.

Commander Diaz regretted not being able to give greater details on De Soto's document because the FMLN and the Cristiani government delegations agreed to keep it confidential. Diaz said that she trusts that the pendular quality serves to expedite the peace negotiations and complete the working program in the shortest time possible so as to reach a final agreement by 15 December.

The FMLN and government delegations continue their meetings in Mexico City, while rebels sabotage the Salvadoran electrical power system. A source close to the participants said that in his opinion the sabotage will not affect the peace talks that are being held in a Mexico City hotel. The source added that the FMLN sabotage of the electrical power system and other infrastructures and service areas has, over the past 12 years of war, served as a weapon to destabilize governments and exert pressure in negotiations to favor FMLN demands.

FMLN participants in the talks are Commanders Roberto Canas, Jorge Shafik Handal, Ana Guadalupe Martinez, Marta Valladares, Nidia Diaz, and Salvador Samayoa, among others. The government delegation is headed by Presidency Minister Oscar Santamaria.

The Salvadoran Government and the FMLN agreed at the UN headquarters in New York to create Copaz [National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace] to supervise the agreements reached by the two sides at the negotiating table. The peace conversations between the guerrillas and the Salvadoran Government began in October 1984, when President Jose Napoleon Duarte was in power.

According to various Central American humanitarian organizations, the Salvadoran civil war that began 12 years ago, has killed more than 75,000 people, has left thousands of people missing and tortured, and has caused losses to the economy totalling over $5 billion.

FMLN Commander Melendez on Peace Negotiations

PA0611170391 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] Rebel Commander Jorge Antonio Melendez said from Mexico that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] is willing to sign a cease-fire agreement today or tomorrow provided it is negotiated with the Salvadoran Government. Melendez told the press that the Salvadoran Government wants a cease-fire agreement to be signed now, but the FMLN will not sign an agreement unless there are negotiations first. Melendez added that the Salvadoran Government has asked that the conflict's intensity be reduced but added that if the violence continues, the Army would move the hostilities to those areas where conflicts have always taken place.

The guerrilla leader stressed that the war cannot end while we are still in the negotiating phase and military operations will continue until we sign a formal or informal cease-fire agreement.

FMLN and Salvadoran Government delegates began meeting in Mexico City on 4 November to find solutions to end the 11-year civil war that has devasted El Salvador and killed more than 75,000 people, according to humanitarian organizations.

The FMLN delegates to the talks are Commanders Roberto Canas, Jorge Shafik Handal, Ana Guadalupe Martinez, Marta Valladares, and Salvador Samayoa. The Salvadoran Government delegates are headed by Presidency Minister Dr. Oscar Santamaria. Rebel Commanders Jorge Antonio Melendez, alias Jonas; Facundo Guardado; Ramon Suarez; Feliciano Guevarra; and Miguel Mendoza, among others, arrived in Mexico from El Salvador. Alvaro De Soto is the representative for UN General Secretary Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The peace talks between the guerrillas and the Salvadoran Government began in October 1984 when Jose Napolen Duarte, the father of democracy in Central America, was president. The Salvadoran Government and the FMLN agreed at the UN headquaters in September 1991 to create a peace commission to supervise the agreements reached at the negotiating table by both sides.

Rebel Radio Says 'Warmongering Is Over'

PA0611160191 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 2 Nov 91

[Unattributed station commentary]

[Text] Winds of change in U.S. policy toward El Salvador and the ratification of judicial reforms, despite obstacles, indicate that the warmongering is over. These changes are also a good sign that the next round of talks will not be marked by war songs. Bernard Aronson, the person responsible for the U.S. policy in Latin America, recently spoke of a balance of forces in El Salvador and the impossibility of any of these forces overriding the other. Mr. Aronson's view, plus the designation of Michael Kozak, an ambassador with the mind of a negotiator, might be an indication that Washington is abandoning its ambiguous policy in El Salvador and acting in accordance with the new reality.

Obviously, these facts support President Cristiani, who had been silenced by those against the negotiations. With this support, Cristiani himself admitted to unrest in the Armed Forces, an unrest that he described as a problem with the state of mind of the officers in relation to the actions of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]. The United States must understand the Salvadoran situation more clearly because the United States will have the final word on whether there will be peace or the war will go on. The actions of the military officers are determined by the military aid. Washington holds the key to discouraging the Salvadoran military officers from opposing the negotiations. The key is shifting the military aid to the country's reconstruction instead. It would be impossible for the military and certain business sectors to eventually embark on a military adventure without U.S. aid because this very same aid serves not only the economy, but their privileges as well.

Another good sign is the ratification of reforms to the judicial system, where the dynamics of peace is attributed to some Nationalist Republican Alliance deputies and magistrates of the Supreme Court. This fact indicates that the tide of the negotiations is so strong that it will easily break through the cracked walls of extreme rightism. These encouraging signs have been observed despite the accelerated operations against our zones and the useless attempts at sabotaging the negotiations and the agreements that have resulted from them. The FMLN will participate in the new meeting with optimism toward bringing out the accords, warming them up, and advancing toward peace. We will not fall for provocations, but we will respond to any action that contradicts the spirit of peace that prevails in our country.

Armed Forces Announces Transfers, Appointments

PA0711000991 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2251 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] Panama City, 6 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran Army on 6 november announced appointments and changes of several military garrison commanders. Among these is Lieutenant Colonel Carlos Humberto Corado, chief of the Presidential Staff, who becomes the chief of operations for the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Corado will be replaced by Jose Manuel Garcia Prieto, former commander of the Arce Battalion in San Miguel Department. Garcia will in turn be replaced by Lt. Col. Samuel Dolores Cuellar.

Colonels Benjamin Eladio Canjura and Roman Alfonso Barrera, commandants at the Armed Forces Telecommunications Training Center (CITFA) and of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Group III, respectively, have been appointed as overseas defense attaches.

Lt. Col. Mauricio Isaac Duque will be the new commander of the Bracamonte Battalion, replacing Lt. Col. Leopoldo Antonio Herrera, who will head the CITFA.

The Armed Forces Press Committee (Coprefa) said that the appointments and transfers were included in Army General Order Number 10, issued on 5 November.

PDC, Leftists Reportedly Holding Secret Talks

PA0711042791 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 3 Nov 91 p 4

[Text] Top leaders of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] are holding secret talks with the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] to create a "leftist coalition" in the next presidential elections to defeat Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance], according to well-informed political sources.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said that the PDC's objective is to create a "bloc with all the leftist forces" to fight all democratic parties like Arena, since the PDC was the big loser in the past elections.

The sources added that the PDC will try to follow the same pattern used in Chile, where all leftist forces joined to defeat General Pinochet.

They said that the strong desire for power of Fidel Chavez Mena, who was defeated by Alfredo Cristiani in the 1989 presidential election, has made it possible to initiate talks with those who are destroying the country, as his dream is to become president of the republic at any cost.

They added that this explains Chavez Mena's frequent trips abroad, possibly to meet with "FMLN commanders." Other leftist leaders who are currently members of

the Legislative Assembly also travel to Mexico frequently to meet with PDC and FMLN leaders, the sources said.

Despite those arrangements, the sources added, the PDC and the rebels will experience a resounding defeat in the next elections, as they have nothing positive to offer the Salvadoran people. They can only offer price controls, statism, dictatorship, and everything that has failed in El Salvador and the rest of the world.

Chavez Mena, who is currently out of the country, has denied the existence of "secret talks" because he does not want the democratic grass roots to know of his surreptitious plans, the sources said.

Officials Report on FMLN Clashes, Casualties

PA0611181191 Paris AFP in Spanish 1640 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] San Salvador, 6 Nov (AFP)—Official sources confirmed on 6 November that government and rebel troops suffered 90 casualties during clashes on 5 November throughout El Salvador at the start of a new guerrilla military campaign.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) states that government troops sustained 72 casualties during clashes in various parts of the country.

Roundup of Guerrilla Activities 28 Oct-4 Nov

PA0511211491

[Editorial Report] Following is a compilation of reports on clashes between the Salvadoran Government and rebel forces.

San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish at 1800 GMT on 28 October carries a two-minute report on an attack by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) against the El Martillo cotton cooperative. The report adds that a tractor, a water tank, and the power station in the Palomares canton, Usulutan Department, were all destroyed.

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 29 October carries 10 minutes of battle reports. The report states that on 28 October the FMLN rebels attacked Arce Battalion troops in Jocuaitique, Morazan Department. The report adds that "the attack began at 0700 and was carried out with rifles and RPG-7s."

(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 29 October carries a three-minute battle report stating that "on 27 October, members of the Paratroopers' Battalion entered a mine field on El Patacon hill, in Cinquera, Cabanas Department." The report adds that three casualties were inflicted on the Paratroopers' Battalion.

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish on 29 October on page 29 carries a 400-word report on several clashes reported on 28 October by the Army. The report states that two rebels and two soldiers were killed during a clash in La Esperanza canton, Tecoluca jurisdiction, San Vicente Department. The report adds that the Atlacatl Battalion reported that two rebels were killed in clashes in Aguas Calientes, Chalatenango Department. The report adds that the 2d Infantry Brigade reported four rebels were wounded in clashes in Masahuat, Santa Ana Department. In the same report, the Atlacatl Battalion reports five rebels wounded in a clash on La Bola hill, San Jose Las Flores, and the 3d Infantry Brigade reports two rebels wounded in Estanzuelas, Usulutan Department.

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 1615 GMT on 31 October reports that "bombs were dropped by the Air Force on Guazapa Hill on 31 October." The station reports "22 enemy casualties as a result of clashes in Los Lirios and La Cruz, San Jose Guayabal jurisdiction, in Cuscatlan." Also, "eight casualties were inflicted on Atlacatl Battalion on 29 October."

(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 1658 GMT on 31 October reports that "on 29 October, Atlacatl Battalion troops stumbled on minefields in La Laguna Seca, Caballete, and Calsate and sustained seven casualties."

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 1638 GMT on 1 November reports that "on 13 October the National Army for Democracy [END] attacked the power substation in San Antonio Abad with RPG-82 grenades and rifle fire for 20 minutes, leaving most of San Salvador without power." The station adds that END members fought Atlacatl Battalion in Cerro Coyote and Cerro Liso, Nueva Trinidad, inflicting five Army casualties. Military Detachment 5 toops sustained two casualties in Tenancingo, Cuscatlan department. On 13 September, clashes occurred in Ocotillo, Niquidambo, and Cerro Buenavista. The "mercenaries" sustained three casualties.

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 3 November reports that "on 2 November END members attacked a company of the Trueno Battalion of Military Detachment 5 between Las Guaras and El Morro. END forces inflicted 17 casualties on the antidemocratic Armed Forces. On the same day, END snipers fired on the National Guard in Tejutepeque and inflicted one casualty. On 1 November, the END ambushed Military Detachment 7 soldiers on the outskirts of Ahuachapan and inflicted 10 casualties.

(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 3 Movember 1991 carries a "military report for October." According to this report, "531 casualties, including three officers, four noncommissioned officers, and nine prisoners, were inflicted on the antidemocratic army from 1 to 31 October. In the same period, END recovered 11 rifles, two M-60 machine guns, five M-72 LOW rocket launchers, more

than 8800 rounds of ammunition, one Motorola military radio set, 20 grenades of various types, 25 knapsacks, six outfits, and other supplies. Also, two military trucks were destroyed, and 128 utility towers, two energy substations, El Marquesado, Canosa, and Oromontique coffee-processing plants, and the National Administration for Telecommunications facilities in Cuscatancingo were damaged. El Martillo cotton-growing cooperative; Hacienda El Tigrito, owned by the president's wife; seven manzanas planted with cotton; and two bridges in Usulutan were also damaged."

San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish at 1227 GMT on 1 November reports that "according to the Army, six guerrillas were killed in combat and two rebels and two soldiers were injured in San Vicente, and Los Lirios in San Jose Guayabal, Cuscatlan department."

Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish at 1858 GMT on 4 November 1991 reports that "according to government sources, 29 casualties were the result of clashes between soldiers and guerrillas in Cuscatlan, Cabanas, Morazan, San Miguel, and Chalatenango departments. Also, guerrillas dynamited two utility towers and seven posts, leaving broad sectors of Santa Ana and La Paz Departments without power."

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish in its 4 November issue reports that "the FMLN perpetrated several criminal deeds over the weekend. Zacatecoluca and the entire La Paz Department were left without power after the rebels sabotaged 128 power towers and three sugar cane mills. One person was killed and four were injured when FMLN terrorists attacked a truck carrying troops near Ahuachapan."

Guatemala

Prosecutor Investigating Gadea Morales Case

PA0511231991 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 31 Oct 91 pp 3, 107

[Text] The Public Prosecutor's Office (PM) has filed charges with the Fourth Lower Court accusing members of the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), as well as workers and officials of the La Aurora International Airport, of illegally detaining Nicaraguan citizen Douglas Gadea Morales.

The charges were listed by the fourth-ranking official in the court's log under entry No. 2566, dated 29 October.

Acisclo Valladares Molina, Attorney General and head of the PM, commented: "The writ of habeas corpus for Douglas Gadea Morales that was submitted to the honorable Supreme Court of Justice was found inadmissible, and so the National Police was tasked with determining his whereabouts."

Valladares said: "We complied with Articles 16 and 331 of the Penal Code and presented the charges to the jurisdictional office. Yesterday afternoon, the PM submitted a letter signed by Gadea Morales in which Gadea describes his illegal detention, as well as his transfer from Guatemala to the city of Miami. The letter is duly authenticated by a notary public of the city of Miami."

Valladares said "Gadea accuses members of the DEA of holding him against his will and says that he has the names of the individuals to be used in a trial to bring the full weight of the law against those who broke it."

Valladares believes that the law must be enforced equally, regardless of nationality, social position, or the uniform they wear, and said that if Gadea Morales' charges are proven true in the investigation, the PM will demand the maximum penalty prescribed for crimes of this nature for everyone involved.

It was learned that the public prosecutor has requested the arraignment of the DEA agents who, according to the charges, appear to be the perpetrators of the crime.

It has been established that Douglas Gadea Morales is in Miami, Florida and not missing in Guatemala, as reported earlier.

Valladares said that if any employees or officials of the La Aurora Airport are involved, they will be charged with concealing information and being accomplices in a criminal action.

The official stressed that the PM will pursue all those who deviate from the procedures established to fight drug trafficking in the same manner it pursues drug traffickers.

Government Supports Taiwan Entry Into GATT

PA0511225491 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 3 Nov 91 p 4

[Text] Vice President Gustavo Espina informed his Taiwanese colleague Li Yuan-zu that Guatemala will support the Republic of China's (ROC) entry request into the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

According to a publication that appeared in the 16 October Spanish edition of the NOTICIAS DE LA REPUBLICA DE CHINA, during his recent visit to Taipei, Espina handed the ROC vice president a copy of a letter that the Guatemalan Government sent to the GATT secretary general. This letter expresses Guatemala's firm intention that the ROC should join the GATT under the name of "Independent Customs Territory of Taiwan, Kinmen, Penghu, and Matsu." During a visit of a Taiwanese legislative delegation to Guatemala a few weeks ago, President Jorge Serrano stressed that relations between the two countries are very cordial and friendly.

Serrano said that the ROC and Guatemala maintain cordial and friendly links and the cooperation between the two countries has increased considerably. On that

occasion the Taiwanese legislators exchanged opinions with Guatemalan deputies on development and other topics of bilateral interest.

Honduras

Callejas on Relations With U.S. Envoy, Unions

PA0611035391 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 4 Nov 91 p 8

[Text] The so-called "delicate situation" between U.S. Ambassador Cresencio Arcos and the Honduran Government has been totally eliminated. "Relations are normal," said President Rafael Leonardo Callejas.

The president disclosed they had breakfast together on 31 October, "but no one apologized, as there was no reason for that. We merely clarified some points."

He added that the positions of the Honduran Government and the U.S. ambassador are fully defined, and "we feel the discrepancies were for reasons that are not worth explaining at this time."

Callejas stated that the relations between the two countries "are normal. Honduras and the United States are interested in maintaining friendly relations."

The president emphasized "there are no differences or misunderstandings, or anything that affects us at this time. There is nothing generating ill-feelings between the two countries or between Ambassador Arcos and me."

Concerning the labor problem at the Tela Railroad Company, the president expressed the hope that the collective bargaining contract will be signed without having to resort to strikes.

Each strike at the banana plantations represents serious losses for the national economy, and therefore he hopes the parties will meet to discuss what is best for both.

The president stated that officials from the Tela Railroad Company and labor leaders from the Trade Union of Tela Railroad Company Workers will meet on 4 November at the Labor Ministry to hold a dialogue and determine if the collective bargaining contract has been violated.

Unfortunately, the government is already involved because there are legal proceedings. It is getting involved to solve problems and to do this, it must take a position which affects the nation and the government itself.

The fact it is taking a position and adopting decisions entails deep resentments, rancors, conflicts, differences, and some situations that put the country on the verge of anarchy, the president stated.

Referring to a request to pardon loans granted by the National Agricultural Development Bank to the cattle ranchers and the farmers cooperatives, he said that this is the result of an agreement and that it does not imply an overall and general pardon of the debt.

Callejas feels that pardoning the debt should not be done in an extensive way, but each case should be individually studied. Therefore, the various sectors have agreed on a process.

The president complained that the topic has been turned into a political issue with the purpose of harming a very positive understanding between the private sector and the workers.

U.S. Mining Company Suspends 900 Workers

PA0511010191 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2001 GMT 4 Nov 91

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 4 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Pacific Mining Incorporated, a U.S. owned mining company, has suspended 900 workers as of 4 November, as a consequence of the labor dispute it has been waging with a group of union members since last October.

The company notified the Labor Ministry of its decision, arguing that the strike against the company is impeding mineral extraction. The Labor Ministry has not yet issued any statement on the matter.

Arthur Swanson, the company's manager, told reporters that the mine, located in the western part of the country, "will continue working with only the necessary maintenance personnel."

Swanson added that the suspension will be lifted "when its causes are gone."

Worker union circles interpreted the suspension as "a means of pressure to force the government into deciding in their favor in the labor dispute they face for having fired 48 workers."

"The multinational company is seeking to bend the labor movement and violate internal labor laws with impunity," said Neftali Garcia, vice president of the Confederation of Honduran Workers, which is supporting the fired workers.

On the weekend of 26-28 October the government tried to reach a favorable agreement between the conflicting sides but was unsuccessful. The multinational company proposed that the matter be tuned over to President Rafael Callejas, in a final attempt for executive mediation.

Nicaragua

Group Claims Credit for Attack on Godoy's Home

PA0611043791 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1618 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Text] Managua, 5 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—A so-called "Front for the Defense of the Revolution" [FDR] has

claimed credit for the attack on the home of Nicaraguan Vice President Virgilio Godoy on 3 November, it was learned here today.

In a brief communique published by the local newspapers, the FDR described the attack as the "first action of harassment" and said that "hereafter it will respond to reactionary violence with revolutionary violence."

The members of the new armed group that has emerged in Nicaragua are not yet known, a military source stated.

On the morning of 3 November an unidentified person opened fire on Godoy's home in Managua, although nobody was hit.

It was learned today that another clandestine organization known as the "Front of Urban Resistance" (FRU), which is demanding the elimination of the Armed Forces, has also emerged.

A communique signed by "Commanders" Josue, Bruno, Ciclon, and 15-8 stated that they have "sentenced to death" General Ortega and all the members of the Sandinist People's Army General Staff and the police high command.

When asked by ACAN-EFE about this, a spokesperson for the Nicaraguan Government Ministry said that "they are investigating the emergence of these armed clandestine groups."

Panama

Further on Shooting of U.S. Soldier

PA0611175891 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 6 Nov 91 p 1A

[Report by Orlando Mendieta C.]

[Text] A U.S. soldier died as a result of a bullet wound. He was shot after he and three companions failed to stop upon instructions from members of the National Police on Jeronimo de la Ossa Avenue.

EL PANAMA AMERICA has learned that the U.S. soldier's name was Chield Jaice Mikael [as published]. He died as a result of a bullet wound in the back. The shot was fired from an M-16 rifle by National Police Corporal Juan Arauz.

The incident occurred at approximately 0300 on 5 November, when the four U.S. citizens' were driving their car in the wrong direction with no lights on.

National Police members asked the men in the car to stop, but the latter ignored the order. The policemen were forced to use their regulation weapons given that they might be dealing with criminals. The policemen fired a warning shot in the air but as the vehicle did not stop, they opened fire and a bullet hit Mikael.

The U.S. soldier died after he was taken to Gorgas Hospital's emergency room and, according to preliminary investigations, the bullet that killed him entered through the vehicle's trunk and went through the back of the seat where he was riding as a passenger.

It was also reported that both the National Police members and the U.S. soldiers have signed a sworn statement at the Assistant District Attorney's Office, through the Technical Judicial Police's Homicide Department, which is handling the investigations on this case.

Columnist Criticizes Shooting

PA0611204691 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 Nov 91 p 1A

[From the "As of Today" column]

[Text] The grave incident in which a U.S. soldier died after being shot by a member of the National Police requires a careful analysis of the circumstances under which Public Force members may legally use their weapons. The incident should also be investigated to determine where the responsibility lies in this case. Even though many details of the case are unknown, nothing of what has been revealed so far by the authorities seems to justify firing the shots that killed the soldier. A firearm, particularly an assault weapon, is too dangerous to be used at will by the agent to whom it has been entrusted. A weapon can be used legally only for legitimate self-defense or when trying to prevent further violence or damage from occurring; even then, every effort must be made to inflict the least harm possible. Among all human rights, life and physical integrity always deserve the authorities' special guardianship and protection. Therefore, what occurred demands the competent authorities' responsible and immediate attention to prevent more victims because of a lack of clear rules and/or adequate training.

Prosecutor Announces Arrest

PA0711012891 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2354 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Excerpt] Assistant Prosecutor Carlos Herrera Moran has already conducted an investigation into the case of (Jan Michael), a 19-year-old U.S. citizen who died 5 November from bullet wounds he received when Corporal Roberto Cuevas of the Public Force fired his M-16.

Cuevas testified that he fired his weapon because the three North Americans riding in a car fled when they were asked to stop at 0130 on 5 November.

The prosecuting office ordered Cuevas' arrest 6 November. [passage omitted]

Student Charges Against Security Forces Pending

PA0611185091 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 6 Nov 91 p 8C

[Report by Jose Ivan Ramos]

[Text] It was announced on 5 November that members of the Law Students' Center [CED] at the University of Panama will file criminal charges against Carlos Bares, director of the Institutional Protection Service (SPI), and Professor Auristela de Munoz, director of the National Institute (IN).

According to the students, Bares is responsible for physical injuries, torture, and other human rights violations against several students during the violent incidents that took place in the vicinity of the Palace of the Herons when FER-29 [Revolutionary Students Front] activists tried to burn a U.S. flag during the 4 November parade.

Also, students organized in the AFIN [Federated Association of the National Institute] -FER-29 group accuse the IN director of harassing members of the association and threatening to force the student movement to disband.

University students Rolando Sanchez and Mauricio Salinas were arrested on 4 November and charged with "plotting to disrupt public order and participating in illegal meetings to jeopardize state security;" and they were released 24 hours later after paying a $10 fine.

Meanwhile, the People's Human Rights Coordinating Board in Panama (COPODEHUPA) issued a communique stating its concern because four students were arrested and detained for more than 25 hours without justifiable charges, and they could not receive legal assistance or be visited by their relatives.

Furthermore, CED President Alexis Cuevas complained about the "excessive use of force" by the SPI, which—in his opinion—is being militarized by the Americans.

Argentina

Text of Menem's Deregulation Decree Published

PY0611173091 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Nov 91 pp 10, 11

["Text" of economic deregulation decree signed by President Carlos Menem on 31 October]

[Text]

Chapter 1

Deregulation of domestic goods and services

Article 1. All restrictions on the supply of goods and services within the national territory; all restrictions on information for consumers or users of services on prices; all technical or commercial specifications of goods or services; and all other restrictions that seek to distort market prices or prevent smooth interaction between supply and demand are hereby rendered ineffective.

Only those activities which, in the opinion of the competent authority, are directly linked to national defense; internal security; or the supply of public services that are considered natural or legal monopolies and that are governed by specific laws, are not included in the present article.

Article 2. The competent authority for Law 22262 is empowered to control the acts and behavioral patterns excluded by Article 5 of this law whenever these acts or behavioral patterns are the cause of the losses stipulated in Article 1 of the same law

Article 3. While investigating acts contemplated in Article 1 of Law 22262, the competent authority may, at any stage of the case, order the suspension of the acts, whenever these acts may result in irreversible or irreparable damage. This power will be prudently applied and may be subject to appeal.

Article 4. The authority provided in Law 20680 is hereby suspended. It can only be reestablished, for the use of each and any measures contained in it, after the honorable National Congress declares a supply emergency, be it at a general, sectorial, or regional level.

The authority granted in Article 2, Section C, is not suspended. Rules on procedures, appeals, and statute of limitations, which are contemplated in Law 20680, remain in force.

Article 5. Road transportation of cargo, the loading and unloading of products, and contracts for cargo transportation are hereafter liberated and deregulated. Laws on transportation security and highway preservation are not affected by the terms of this article.

Article 6. The National Attorney General's Office will request that the National Supreme Court declare unconstitutional the provincial rules opposing free interjurisdictional trade and transportation, which may be contained in cases submitted for its ruling.

Article 7. All restrictions on the wholesale trade of perishable foodstuff are hereby annulled. In keeping with Article 7 of Law 19227, the competent authority will redefine, in each case, the scope of protection based on the terms of the aforementioned law, thus permitting free supply and demand and cutting out some of the middlemen.

Article 8. This article annuls all regulations on fees, tables, or rates that establish salaries, commissions, or any other type of payment for professional services that are not included in the labor laws or collective bargaining resolutions, and refers to any activity—including the capital or stock markets—approved or established by laws, decrees, or resolutions.

Article 9. Any direct or indirect form of centralized charging of the retributions mentioned in the preceding article through public or private institutions is prohibited. This prohibition does not affect the charging of registration fees, monthly dues, or other fees for similar concepts charged by public or private institutions to its members or associates as long as they were freely agreed upon.

Article 10. Accounting experts appointed in legal trials or arbitrations of any kind will be exclusively subject to the fees regulated in the pertinent trial case. Court-determined fees do not exclude settlements between the winner, the loser, and the accounting experts in the trial.

Article 11. No public or private institution may directly or indirectly prevent, hinder, or object to the free bargaining of fees, commissions, or any kind of retribution not included in the labor law or in collective labor contracts for the rendering of services of any kind, whenever the two parties wish to ignore existing scales of fees.

Article 12. All limitations on the exercise of university or nonuniversity professions are hereby rendered ineffective throughout the national territory. This includes quantitative limitations of any kind expressed through prohibitions or any other kind of restrictions on the arrival of legally qualified professionals to exercise their profession.

The quantitative restrictions established by Law No. 12990 are rendered ineffective.

The Ministry of Justice must dictate within 30 days the pertinent regulatory norms.

Article 13. Any person or institution of any kind may own drug stores without any restrictions on the location.

Article 14. Commercial stores not included in Law No. 17565 are hereby authorized to sell medical products that are described as nonprescription drugs by the health authority.

Article 15. Commercial stores which have special sections to serve as drug stores under the conditions specified by the authority mentioned in Law No. 17565 are hereby authorized to sell medicines.

Article 16. Laboratories, drug stores, public and private hospitals, and medical insurance associations are hereby authorized to import medicines prepared for sale to the public.

Article 17. All restrictions on working hours and days for loading and unloading services and any other task necessary for the full operation of ports without interruption are hereby suspended without detriment to the individual rights of workers.

Article 18. All restrictions on working hours or days for the sale, packaging, forwarding, administration, and other related activities are hereby suspended without detriment to the individual rights of workers.

Chapter 2

Deregulation of Foreign Trade.

Article 19. All restrictions, quotas, and other restrictions on the volume of imports and exports of merchandise are hereby abolished, according to the decision of the competent authority.

Article 20. All interventions, authorizations, and previous administrative actions on exports and on customs documents with which the shipments are made, are hereby annulled. Exempted from these measures are all required restrictions or authorizations implied in international agreements or treaties, compulsory sanitary measures which cannot be carried out by private organizations, and those related to the preservation of the fauna and flora or of the environment. Products and merchandise earmarked for exports are hereby exempted from the provisions of Articles 1 and 2 of Law No. 22802.

Article 21. The additional preferences established in Articles 3 and 11 of Decree No. 1224 of 9 November 1989 on the purchase of national products are hereby derogated. They will prevail only when the prices of national and imported products are equal or when there are equal offers of works and services between national and foreign companies.

Article 22. Imports of products of animal or vegetable origin and their byproducts not directly earmarked for sale to the public will be submitted to a sanitary inspection before being allowed to enter the market by the National Service for Animal Health [Senasa] or by the Argentine Institute for Health and Quality Control of Vegetables [Instituto Argentino de Sanidad y Calidad Vegetal], as appropriate.

Article 23. The competent authority in the implementation of the Argentine foodstuff code will intervene in the registration of imported foodstuff earmarked for direct sale to the public, in accordance with the current laws on this matter. Hygienic-sanitary and dietetic controls of those products will be carried out upon their entry into the market, without detriment to the authorization for sales to the public, except when the products are not stored under the appropriate sanitary conditions. In this case the Senasa and the Argentine Institute for Health and Vegetable Control will carry out the controls before their entry into the country, in accordance with what was described in the preceding article.

Article 24. The organizations mentioned in the preceding article must install delegations in all customs offices through which these products habitually or permanently pass, to inspect and authorize imports.

Article 25. All interventions, authorizations, or any administrative action prior to the intervention of the National Customs Administration for the import of goods not included in the preceding articles are hereby annulled, except for those products considered hazardous to the health and to the environment, in accordance with the current specific law.

Article 26. All restrictions on imports of merchandise due to their origin and source are hereby annulled.

Article 27. Freight booking reserves established in Laws No. 18250, 22763, and 23341, their amendments, modifications, and related regulations, are hereby annulled.

Article 28. The requirement for imported merchandise to pass through a customs warehouse, established by Law No. 22415, is hereby annulled. Said merchandise will be cleared under a "straight to the market" procedure, unless the importer wishes to store his merchandise in a customs warehouse or is so ordered expressly and according to a specific case by customs or health authorities. The straight-to-the-market procedure will be compulsory whenever the customs lack the appropriate warehouse to store the merchandise.

Article 29. Requirements for registration at the Importers and Exporters Registry of the National Customs Administration are hereby simplified. To be able to register, private individuals and corporations will only be required to prove that they are registered at the General Directorate of Taxation by showing their Single Tax Payer's Identification Code [CUIT].

Article 30. The simultaneous billing of internal taxes on imported goods and other taxes on imported consumer goods, and their payment by means of a unified invoice at the National Customs Administration, is hereby established. This procedure will be implemented 60 days after the publication if this decree.

Article 31. The National Customs Administration's intervention will seek to comply with tax and custom tariff regulations, including quality and quantity control

for the purpose of assessment and statistics, and to maintain the ban on the import and export of goods not contemplated by the current decree, according to the terms of Law No. 22415.

The National Customs Administration's main role will be to safeguard fiscal revenues, without hindering foreign trade. Inspections will be of a selective rather than systematic nature, in compliance with the instructions given to that effect by the customs authorities.

Article 32. The Senasa, the Argentine Institute for Health and Quality Control of Vegetables, and the competent authority of the Argentine Nutrition Standards Code, will publish within 90 days the revised text of the norms regulating their intervention in compliance with the terms of the current decree. This will include foodstuffs ready for direct sale to the public which, because of their special characteristics, must be inspected before being placed on the market. The mentioned text must clearly indicate the dates on which the intervention will take place and should be posted in a visible place in the offices of all these organizations. Copies of the text must be offered for sale.

Article 33. A temporary import system is hereby established for merchandise to be reexported according to terms established by the competent authority.

Chapter 3

Control Enterprises

Article 34. All administrative units, lower in rank than the National, General, or equivalent Directorate, that handle the interventions and the activities eliminated by this decree are hereby annulled. Personnel of the mentioned units will be reassigned to other duties within the respective jurisdictions.

Article 35. Any statistical data maintained by the dismantled units will be delivered, within 30 days following the publication of the current law, to the National Statistics and Census Institute.

Article 36. Organizations mentioned in Annex 1, which is attached to this decree, are hereby annulled.

Article 37. Internal and external trade policies on agriculture products and policies affecting international agreements, which were handled by the National Meat Board and the National Grains Board are hereby transferred to the Agriculture, Livestock, and Fishing Secretariat. The responsibility for quality and supervision policies in accordance with Decree Law 6698/63, and Law 21740 and its amendments and regulations, are hereby transferred to the Senasa and the Argentine Institute for Health and Quality Control of Vegetables as appropriate.

Article 38. National Grains Board managerial supervision personnel will be transferred to the Agriculture, Livestock, and Fishing Secretariat, the National Customs Administration, the General Tax Directorate, and the Argentine Institute for Health and Quality Control of Vegetables in accordance with Decree 646/91 on structural reorganization.

Article 39. National Grains Board personnel operating in field units, grain elevator units, the National Livestock Market and the National Fish Market will retain their posts until those organizations are wholly privatized. The assets of the organization will be transferred without the prerogatives established by Law 22260.

Article 40. Personnel working in the technical inspection and supervision departments of the National Meat Board will be transferred to the National Customs Administration; the National Tax Directorate; or the Senasa as provided for in Decree 743/91.

Article 41. Fishing trade regulatory responsibilities as provided for by Law 22260 are hereby transferred to the Agriculture, Livestock, and Fishing Secretariat.

Article 42. The Agriculture, Livestock, and Fishing Secretariat will be authorized to appoint a liquidating trustee for each organization that is dissolved within its jurisdiction. The trustee will perform his duties in a maximum period of 90 days from the day this decree enters into effect.

Article 43. The assets of the dissolved organizations, as indicated in Annex I, will be transferred to the state, which will sell them through the appropriate organs, except when, within a period of 60 days, they are transferred to the National Customs Administration; the General Tax Directorate; or to any other organization specified by the competent authority.

This disposition will not apply to grain elevator units which because of their location could help to the creation of monopolies or semimonopolies as determined by the competent authority. The privatization of these units will be carried out after adequate regulatory guidelines for avoiding such situations are approved.

Article 44. The Agriculture, Livestock, and Fishing Secretariat and the Argentine Institute for Health and Quality Control of Vegetables are hereby authorized to increase their payroll to cover the incorporation of personnel from dissolved organization under their jurisdiction that might be required to fulfill functions that were transferred to them.

Article 45. The organizations included in Annex 2, which is attached to this decree, are hereby annulled.

Article 46. All the regulations on wine growing, mate, and sugar production, and on their related industries established by Laws 14878, 17848, 17849, 21502, 21657, 23149, 23150, 23550, 23683, 20371, and 19597 and all their amendments, and regulations are hereby annulled.

Article 47. The functions assigned by Law 20371 to the Regulating Commission for Mate Production and Marketing that have not been eliminated are hereby transferred to the Industry and Commerce Secretariat.

Article 48. New cultivations of mate and the harvest, industrialization, and marketing of mate in the entire national territory are hereby liberated.

Article 49. The functions assigned by Law 19597 to the National Sugar Directorate that have not been eliminated are hereby transferred to the Industry and Commerce Secretariat.

Article 50. The cultivation, harvest, industrialization, and marketing of sugar cane and sugar are hereby liberated in the entire national territory.

Article 51. Decree 1079 of 14 June 1985 and its amendments are hereby annulled.

Article 52. The plantation, implantation, reimplantation and/or modification of vineyards in the entire national territory, as well as the harvest of grapes, and their use for industry, fresh consumption, and other uses including the making of alcohol are hereby liberated.

Article 53. Wine production and marketing in the entire national territory are hereby liberated, and all types of quotas and restrictions are hereby eliminated. The date of dispatch for internal consumption of new drinking wine that is enologically stable after the harvest is over is hereby liberated.

Article 54. The rights granted to the National Wine Growing Institute are hereby limited exclusively to the control of the purity of wine growing products. Under no circumstances will the institute interfere with, regulate, or modify the operation of the free market. The institute will have a president and a vice president, and the executive board is hereby abolished. The National Wine Growing Institute, within 60 days from the date of this decree, will have to carry out the overall reorganization of its personnel in accordance with the institute's restricted powers.

Article 55. Decree 301 of 2 March 1989 is hereby annulled.

Article 56. The Industry and Commerce Secretariat is hereby authorized to appoint a liquidator in every one of its dissolved organizations under its jurisdiction who must carry out his tasks within the unpostponable term of 90 days from the date of this decree. The assets of the dissolved organizations must be transferred to the state, which through its appropriate organizations must sell them, except if within 60 days a decision is made to transfer them to the National Customs Administration, General Directorate of Taxation, or to other organizations authorized by the appropriate official.

Article 57. The Industry and Commerce Secretariat is hereby authorized to expand its permanent staff for the sole purpose of taking in the personnel of the dissolved organizations under its jurisdiction who are required for the fulfillment of the tasks transferred to that secretariat.

Article 58. Regulations applying to the milk market and the dairy industry, which are established by Law No. 23359, are hereby annulled.

Chapter 4

Fiscal Reform

Article 59. The surcharge applying to wine, established in Paragraph A of Article 53 of the internal tax law, is hereby annulled. The increase in this surcharge, which is established in Article 18 of Law 23550 is also hereby annulled.

Article 60. Contributions paid on the sale of meat on both local and foreign markets, and on the commissions earned by auctioneers or middlemen in cattle, meat, and meat byproduct transactions—which are established in Paragraphs A and B of Article 16 of Law No. 21740—and the respective modifications to such regulations, are hereby annulled.

Article 61 - Contributions paid on grain exportation, processing, and sale, which are established in Paragraphs A and B of Article 13 of Decree-Law No. 6698/63—and their respective modifications—are hereby annulled.

Article 62. The tax paid on first auction sales, which is established in Paragraph A of Article 7 of Law No. 22260, is hereby annulled.

Article 63. The tax provided for in Paragraph A of Article 9 of Law No. 19597—and its modifications—is hereby annulled.

Article 64. The variable internal tax provided for in Paragraph K of Article 3 of Law No. 20371 is hereby annulled. Decree No. 1257, dated 3 July 1991, is hereby annulled.

Article 65. The taxes established by Decree-Law No. 18231/43 and by Article 8 of Decree-Law No. 4073/56—and their respective modifications—and the tax provided for in Article 1 of Law No. 13235 are hereby annulled.

Article 66. The taxes provided for in Paragraph B of Article 47 of Law No. 13273, and by Articles 48 (which was modified by Article 1 of Law No. 20531), 50, 51, and 52 of the same law are hereby annulled. Article 1 of Law No. 20531 is hereby annulled.

Article 67. The Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Public Works and Services are hereby empowered to transfer to the general revenue account, in an amount that they consider appropriate, the funds provided for in Paragraph A of Article 24 of Law No. 19800 and in Articles 24 and 25 of the same law, and in their respective modifications and regulations.

Article 68. The exemption of taxes paid on low-productivity lands, which are provided for in Law No. 22211, is hereby annulled.

Article 69. The consular fee established in Law No. 22766 and in Decree No. 1411/83 is hereby annulled. Article 5 of Decree No. 1329/65 is hereby annulled. All consular steps affecting documents issued through these regulations are hereby annulled.

Article 70. The Finance Secretariat of the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Public Works and Services will transfer 50 percent of the revenues of the statistics tax paid on imports to the Special Consular Fund Account.

Article 71. The statistics tax established in Article 1 of Law No. 23664 and Article 35 of Law No. 23697 is hereby annulled.

Article 72. The export promotion fund is hereby annulled. Decree No. 179/85 is hereby annulled.

Article 73. The taxes established by Article 1 of Law No. 19870, which are destined for the Merchant Marine, are hereby annulled.

Article 74. Decrees No. 6099/72, 4367/73, 2241/71, and 4758/73, dealing with the promotion of the naval, aeronautical, and highway machinery industry, are hereby annulled.

Article 75. Decrees 3113/61, 843/66, 910/70, and 345/88 are hereby annulled and the Iron and Steel Mills Activities Registry is hereby annulled.

Article 76. Fee franchises on the import of raw materials, components, and other products used in the production of aluminum as established in Law 19188 are hereby annulled.

Article 77. The following activities and operations are exempt from the taxes established under the Stamp Tax Law (text revised in 1986) and its modifications:

A. Any document, activity, or operation—including the payment or collection of money—involved in the raising of stock capital or the issuing of securities to cover the debts of those who issue them, or any other type of security offered to the public by corporations that are duly authorized by the National Securities Commission in accordance with the terms of Law 17811. This exemption includes documents, activities, contracts, operations, and guarantees related to raising stock capital and/or the aforementioned issuances—be they simultaneous, subsequent, or renewing said issues—in keeping with conditions contemplated in this article.

B. Activities and/or documents related to transactions of shares or other securities that are duly authorized to be offered to the public by the National Securities Commission.

C. Mortgages and other forms of collateral on operations mentioned in the above sections, even if used for the future expansion of said operations.

D. Taxable activities and operations that were originally classified as exempt from taxes in view of their links with future issuance of securities will become taxable if an authorization for the offer of said securities is not requested from the National Securities Commission within a period of 90 days, and/or if they are not sold within a period of 180 days beginning from the day the authorization was granted.

Article 78. Proceeds obtained by individuals and corporations from operations involving the purchase, sale, or exchange of securities, and any other transaction aimed at disposing of shares, bonds, or other securities will be exempt from profit tax. Inheritances from abroad will also be exempt from profit tax (in this case Article 21 of the Tax on Profit Law will not be applicable—text revised in 1986).

Article 79. The tax on transference of stock created by Law No. 21280 and its amendments, and the additional tax on the transfer of stock created by Law No. 23562 and its amendments is hereby annulled; the tax on the sale, purchase, or exchange of foreign currency established by Law No. 18526 (text revised in 1987) and its amendments is also hereby annulled.

The minimum term requirements for mortgages established in Clause 4 of Article 36 of Law No. 23576 (amended by Law No. 23962), is hereby annulled without detriment to the powers of the Argentine Central Bank. Considering the modification introduced by this article, the tax on negotiable obligations foreseen in Articles 36 and 36 Bis of the mentioned norm will also apply to public titles and shares, their earnings and dividends.

Chapter 5

Capital Market

Article 80. The National Securities Commission is authorized to establish the requirements for information from the companies that issue public securities; the intermediaries authorized in the sale of securities to the public; and the administrative, managerial, and other personnel involved in the sale of securities. The National Securities Commission will establish restrictions on the use of information by the above mentioned companies and individuals in the transaction of securities. Offers made in accordance with Article 16 of Law 17811 in legal transactions with fixed or futures contracts, or any other type of transaction will be considered public offers. Legal transactions of securities, fixed and future contracts, and other options will not be considered public offers when they meet the conditions determined by the National Securities Commission.

Article 81. Stockbrokers commission may be freely negotiated between stockbrokers and their clients. The Economy and Public Works Ministry is hereby authorized to reduce the fees established in Articles 33 and 38 of Law 17811.

Article 82. The restrictions and limitations established in Law 17811—related to the dissemination of information obtained by the National Securities Commission, its officials, and employees as part of their responsibilities—will not apply to the communication of this information to similar officials abroad with which the National Securities Commission holds a reciprocity agreement.

Article 83. The National Securities Commission, the officials who monitor companies, and the stock exchange can establish the conditions for the presentation of the accounts of the companies under their control.

The procedure described in Article 19 of Law 17811 will only apply to the public offer of securities. Regarding the offer of fixed and future contracts and other options, the National Securities Commission will authorize the operation of the markets where legal transactions are made, the mechanisms through which such offers are considered legal, and the operations of intermediaries. Such measures will not prejudice the rights of the Central Bank.

Article 84. The right to issue preferential shares and to increase the issuance of securities, as established by Articles 194 and 197 and other related regulations of Law 19550 and its amendments, can be applied to companies that offer public securities under the terms established by the National Securities Commission, which can also suspend them. These companies can limit or suspend such rights in accordance with the regulation of the National Securities Commission.

Chapter 6

Single Social Security System

Article 85. The Single Social Security System (SUSS) is hereby created. It will be subordinated to the Ministry of Labor and Social Security and will be charged with all the functions and objectives that have until now been fulfilled by the Fund of Family Allowances for Employees of the Commercial Area; by the Fund of Family Allowances for Personnel of the Industrial Area; and by the Fund of Family Allowances for Dock Workers; Personnel of the River and Maritime Areas; and for Naval Industry Workers. The SUSS will also handle any allowance system that may be established for unemployed workers.

Article 86. The Unified Social Security Contribution (CUSS) is hereby created. The SUSS will control and collect on behalf of the CUSS.

Regulations for control and the compulsory collection of contributions for the National System of Retirement Allowances and Pensions will apply to the CUSS.

Background information given to the CUSS will be considered a sworn declaration by the employer.

Article 87. The CUSS will receive the following contributions:

A) contributions paid by salaried workers and employers to the National System of Retirement Allowances and Pensions.
B) contributions paid by salaried workers and employers to the National Institute of Social Security Services for Retired Workers and Pensioners.
C) contributions paid by salaried workers and employers to the National Health Insurance Administration.
D) contributions by salaried workers and employers that may be established for the creation of a National Employment Fund.
E) contributions paid by salaried workers and employers to the National System of Social Works. The SUSS will transfer, on a monthly basis, the funds corresponding to each social area under the terms established by the respective regulations.
F) contributions paid by employers to Support and Family Allowances Funds.

The CUSS will not handle the deductions that replace the previously described obligations and that were established through agreements for shared labor responsibility. The control and compulsory collection of such deductions will be fulfilled by the SUSS under the rules established by the Social Security Secretariat.

Article 88. The CUSS contribution will be equivalent to the contributions that each employer should pay—by virtue of pertinent regulations—as described in Paragraphs A to F of the previous paragraph.

Article 89. The amounts paid to employees as family allowances, in keeping with Law No. 18017 and its modifications, will be deductible from the contributions that employers have to make to the CUSS.

The SUSS may be expected to return allowances that were not deducted as established in the previous paragraph, and anything in excess of the total CUSS.

The terms of this article will not apply to returns that are pending on the date of enforcement of this decree.

Article 90. CUSS revenues and any additional income obtained from surcharges, interest rates, adjusted payments, and fines will be registered and distributed proportionately to each system, organization, or fund listed in the respective article of the current decree, after discounting deductions made by employers in concept of family allowances paid to the personnel under the terms established by the regulation.

Article 91. The Fund of Family Allowances for Employees of the Commercial Area; the Fund for Family Allowances for Personnel of the Industrial Area; Fund of Family Allowances for Dock Workers; Personnel of the River and Maritime Areas, and for Naval Industry Workers are hereby annulled.

Article 92. The Labor and Social Security Ministry will assume the functions performed up to now by the aforementioned funds.

Article 93. The following officials are hereby relieved of their posts:

A. the president; the members and alternate members of the advisory committee; and the labor union of the Fund of Family Allowances for Employees of the Commercial Areas;
B. the president; the members and alternate members of the advisory committee; and the labor union of the Fund of Family Allowances for Personnel of the Industrial Area, and;
C. the president; the members and alternate members of the management and the labor union of the Fund of Family Allowances for Dock Workers; Personnel of the River and Maritime Areas; and for Naval Industry Workers.

The Labor and Social Security Ministry will appoint the officials who will direct,administrate, and control the Family Allowances System.

Article 94. The assets, real estate, funds, and credits of the dismantled Funds of Family Allowances are hereby transferred to the National Government. They will be administered through the Labor and Social Security Ministry. Resources obtained from the sale of disposable assets will be added to a special account under the jurisdiction of the Labor and Social Security Ministry for this purpose.

Article 95. The assets and real estate that in the future may be assigned to the Funds for Family Allowances will be transferred to the Labor and Social Security Ministry.

All future contributions to the Funds for Family Allowances will be transferred to a special account under the jurisdiction of the Labor and Social Security Ministry.

Article 96. The National Institute of Social Security is hereby annulled. The posts of president, vice president, directors, and labor union leaders are eliminated.

The intervention in the National Institute of Social Security is hereby lifted.

Article 97. The assets, real estate, funds, and credits of the National Institute of Social Security are hereby transferred to the national government. They will be administered through the Labor and Social Security Ministry. The resources obtained from the sale of disposable assets will be deposited in a special account under the jurisdiction of the Labor and Social Security Ministry.

Article 98. The assets and real estate that in the future may be assigned to the National Institute of Social Security will be transferred to the Labor and Social Security Ministry.

All future contributions to the National Institute of Social Security will be transferred to a special account under the jurisdiction of the Labor and Social Security Ministry.

Article 99. The duties that the institute fulfilled to this date will be transferred to the Labor and Social Security Ministry through the Social Security Secretariat.

Article 100. Personnel of the former Fund for Family Allowance and the National Institute of Social Security will enjoy existing labor rights and the guarantees of existing laws.

SUSS personnel may be reassigned as required or may choose to retire under the voluntary retirement system established by this decree.

Article 101. Workers and managers' rights and obligations with respect to the Fund for Family Allowance and the National Institute of Social Security will continue under the SUSS without detriment through what is established in this decree.

Article 102. The duties assigned by law to the Fund for Family Allowance and the National Institute of Social Security will be transferred to the SUSS.

Article 103. The Ministry of Labor and Social Security will submit to the national government its new structural organization chart, which contemplates the rulings of this decree, within a period of 90 days from the approval of this decree.

Chapter 7

Collective Bargaining

Article 104. The Ministry of Labor and Social Security will form a collective labor agreement negotiating commission as provided by Article 1 of Decree 200/88 within the deadline established by Law No. 23546.

Article 105. Article 1 of Decree 100/88 is modified as follows:

"Article 1. Parties who sign collective labor agreements, in accordance with their right to collective autonomy, will be able to choose the most appropriate type of negotiation method according to the following classification:
A. Collective agreement per activity;
B. Collective agreement for one or more sectors or activities;
C. Collective agreement by trade or profession;
D. Collective agreement by company;
E. Collective agreement by state enterprise; by corporation where the state is the main shareholder; by state or mixed financial company—as included in the law describing financial institutions and listed in Article 1 of Law 14250 (text revised by decree 108/88)

This order is not compulsory. Parties do not have to stay within the limits of the preceding collective agreement. Parties can change the type of negotiation when renewing their contracts at the request of either one of the parties involved."

Chapter 8

General Provisions

Article 106. A voluntary retirement system is hereby established for a period of 30 days from the opening of the respective registers for the personnel of dissolved agencies who are not moved to other public agencies or to private companies that take over the these agencies in accordance with the provisions of this decree. Personnel accepting the voluntary retirement system will collect the equivalent to one month of remuneration for each year of service or fraction greater than 3 months, plus 20 percent.

This amount will be paid in 7 equal and consecutive monthly installments.

Article 107. Personnel not transferred to other public or private agencies and who have not accepted the voluntary retirement system will be put on a waiting list pending further assignment or their labor relationship will be terminated, as appropriate, in accordance with their labor statutes.

Article 108. The government trustees involved in the liquidation must, within 5 days of their appointment, open a register of voluntary retirement applications. They will be responsible for dealing with applications.

Article 109. All pending lawsuits, in which the agencies dissolved by the present decree appear as the plaintiff or as the sued party, must be pursued by the Legal Service of the Economy and Public Works and Services Ministry, or by the Labor and Social Security Ministry, as appropriate.

Article 110. The Economy and Public Works and Services Ministry will change the 1992 national administration general budget bill to conform with the provisions of the present decree for submittal to the National Congress.

Article 111. Concerning the changes in the 1992 national administration general budget bill, the Economy and Public Works and Services Ministry will provide for an increase in the credits for the Agriculture, Livestock, and Fishing Secretariat in order to meet forestry development, soil conservation, and a flora and fauna sanitation policy.

Article 112. The Economy and Public Works and Services Finance Secretariat is hereby empowered to modify and cancel the budget allocations of the agencies involved in the provisions of the present decree.

Article 113. All potential liabilities of the dissolved agencies, mentioned in Annexes 1 and 2 of the present decree, are hereby transferred to the State.

Article 114. The competent authority is hereby empowered to dissolve sector and product advisory commissions that operate under the Economy and Public Works and Services Ministry.

Article 115. The provisions of Articles 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33 of Decree 1757/90 are hereby ratified. The agencies whose functions have been changed and/or annulled by this decree must submit their new organization chart to the Executive Committee for Administrative Reform Control 90 days. The Public Function Secretariat of the Presidency of the Nation will, after the aforementioned deadline, promote the publication of an Orderly Text of all the National Administration structures which it will periodically update in accordance with the changes within the state structure.

Article 116. The Public Works and Services Ministry will implement and promulgate the regulations contained in the decree. It is also empowered to determine in each case the significance of the regulations approved by the decree, except for those included in Chapters 6 and 7, which will be implemented by the Social Security Ministry. When the regulations involve other jurisdictions, the authority in charge of implementing the regulations will demand the participation of the other authorities.

The Technical Advisory Committee for the Deregulation is hereby created. It will comprise one representative from the Finance Secretariat; one representative from the Public Income Secretariat; one representative from the Industry and Commerce Secretariat; one representative from the Agriculture, Livestock, and Fishing Secretariat of the Public Works and Services Ministry; one representative of the General Secretariat; one representative of the Legal and Technical Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic; and one representative of the National Treasury. The Economic Secretariat will head the committee, and the Technical and Administrative Coordination will be in charge of the secretariat and will coordinate the tasks of the Committee. When studies conducted by the committee involve other ministerial jurisdictions the committee will request the participation of such authorities.

Article 117. The Technical Advisory Committee for the Deregulation will immediately analyze the implementation of the decree concerning the following activities and markets:

A. passenger transportation (urban, air, and medium-distance land transport)
B. airports and warehouses for merchandise;
C. frequencies for radios and television;
D. mail services;
E. cellular, rural, and mobile telecommunication;
F. gasoline stations and fuel supply;
G. supply of goods to the state;
H. public works administration;
I. production, processing, and marketing of cotton;
J. money exchange agencies; and
K. mining activities

Article 118. All laws and regulations that contradict this decree are hereby revoked.

Article 119. The implementation of the decree is compulsory in the Buenos Aires City Hall. The provinces are hereby invited to join the system that is approved through the current decree.

Article 120. This decree will go into effect on the day of its publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Article 121. The Honorable Congress of the Nation is informed of the provision of Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 46, 48, 50, 52, 53, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, first part, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69 first part, 71, 73, 76, 78, 79, and Chapters 5 and 6 of the present decree.

Article 122. It is so ordered.

Annex 1

National Grain Board
National Meat Board
National Forestry Institute
Fishing Concentration Market
National Horse Institute
Argentine Meat Producers Corporation
Liniers Livestock Market

Annex 2

Commission for the Regulation of the Yerba Mate Production and Marketing
National Yerba Mate Consignee Market
National Sugar Directorate

Brazil

Central Bank Reserves Drop to 'Critical Level'

PY0611223491 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Nov 91 p 20

[Text] Brasilia—Exchange reserves dropped to a critical level of $6.3 billion by mid-October after the Central Bank tried to attract foreign capital and promote exports through a mini-devaluation of the cruzeiro on 31 September [date as published]. In September and October, Brazil lost $2.5 billion through the remittance abroad of the capital that was brought into the country in the first half of the year, through a $500 million payment on the foreign debt interest and a balance-of-trade drop in August and September.

This year, the minimum level of reserves, $7.6 billion, was reached in April, when the Central Bank was chaired by Ibrahim Eris. He promoted gold and dollar market operations. The policy adopted by current bank Chairman Francisco Gros, who is against active participation of fiscal authorities in the market, was immediately reflected by foreign currency availability.

Eris' strategy, which was criticized by Gros, consisted of buying gold on the internal market and selling it on the New York Stock Exchange, thus bringing in dollars to balance the exchange rate. Gold price differences between the local and the external markets brought record earnings to the Central Bank, which were transferred to the Treasury.

Gros, who has other ideas, chose not to operate with dollars and gold, and the Central Bank started functioning as a regulator of liquidity. This policy was abandoned some days ago, which caused instability on the market.

Unemployment Levels in Various States Announced

PY0611180691 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Nov 91 Section Three p 1

[Summary] The Interunion Department of Statistics and Socioeconomic Studies reported that for the first time since 1985, 30 percent of the Sao Paulo metropolitan area work force of 7.8 million people is unemployed. In Santa Catarina State, the Cecrisa Group laid off 1,100 employees. Elson Melo, head of the Manaus Metalworkers Union, reported that the Springer Panasonic Company dismissed 250 workers. In Rio Grande do Sul State, 29.5 percent of the civil construction workers, 27,000 people, was laid off. In the metropolitan region of Recife, Pernambuco State, 113,427 people were laid off between January and August 1991.

Inclusion in Iranian Dam Construction Confirmed

PY0611230291 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Nov 91 p 22

[Report by special correspondent Joao Borges]

[Text] Tehran—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati assured yesterday Brazilian Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek that the Andrade Gutierrez Construction Company will take part in the construction of the Karan III Hydroelectric Dam. As part of his four-day visit to Iran, Rezek held yesterday his first working meeting with Velayati. In the meeting, Rezek and Velayati discussed the participation of Brazilian companies in Iran's investment program, which will require $120 billion in the next four years.

The participation of the Andrade Gutierrez company in the construction of the Karan III Hydroelectric Dam is virtually assured. Technically speaking, the Brazilian company was awarded a bid but, according to Rezek, a political decision must be made on it.

The Karan III Hydroelectric Dam's budget totals $2 billion. In principle, the Andrade Gutierrez Construction Company will be responsible for the civilian works, which will yield profits totaling about $350 million. But there are negotiations under way for the Siemens company to supply the equipment. The Karan III dam, located in southern Iran, will have a generating capacity of 2 million kilowatts.

After his meeting with Minister Velayati, and with a Brazilian-Iranian Joint Commission meeting at the

Political and International Studies Institute, Foreign Minister Rezek said: "The negotiations are going very well."

Rezek traveled to Iran with about 50 Brazilian businessmen who have been negotiating their participation in the Iranian investment program with Iranian officials. Through this investment program, Iran hopes to overcome the serious economic and social problems caused by the eight-year war with Iraq.

Foreign Minister Rezek is also negotiating for the supply of sugar mills for the Dedini-Zanini consortium. This issue must be discussed during a scheduled meeting with President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-R.afsanjani.

Colombia

Government Talks With CNGSB Reach Stalemate

PA0611152391 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Report by Plinio Ordonez from Caracas]

[Text] The talks between the government and the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNGSB] in Caracas have taken a new turn this week. Everything seems to indicate that the dialogue's outlook is negative. The CNGSB is apparently inclined to delay the relocation process while the government believes that no progress will be achieved in this new round of talks, unlike previous meetings.

Meanwhile, the government delegates pledged to investigate the paramilitary groups operating in our national territory and the CNGSB agreed to allow the access of members of the International Red Cross to its camps so that they may verify the status of CNGSB hostages.

[Begin recording] [Guerrilla spokesman Alfonso Cano] We pledged to give the names of the prisoners of war we have in our camps so that the organization can carry out the humanitarian actions included in its mission.

[Deputy Government Minister Hector Riveros] We have always believed that this type of action is actually used for publicity purposes, like when they offered to let a group of Venezuelan journalists visit their camps to verify the same thing about their hostages. Therefore, we do not think that this type of thing is too important. [end recording]

For the time being, the official delegates are simply waiting for the documents that the guerrilla groups offered to give concerning paramilitary groups, for their respective investigation.

War Continues

PA0611135491 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Text] The talks for a cease-fire agreement between the government and the guerrillas in Caracas advanced very little on 4 November. Positions have polarized, precluding agreements on the 15 points being discussed in continuous working sessions.

Meanwhile, the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNGSB] burned three trailers in eastern Medellin on 4 November.

The CNGSB said today at the Caracas talks that the war will continue until a bilateral cease-fire agreement is signed. In addition, Francisco Galan, spokesman for the Army of National Liberation [ELN], said that attacks on the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline will continue as a mechanism to call the attention of the new Congress on the exploration, exploitation, and pillaging of Colombian oil.

[Begin Galan recording] We have said this before and we reaffirm it now. We will continue to demand an agreement for the sovereign exploitation of our resources. [end recording]

The radicalization of guerrilla demands created a climate of skepticism among government delegates. The talks were centered on 15 basic points, with priority being assigned to identifying the areas of conflict; the guerrillas' political mobilization; missing people; kidnappings; and the demand of protection for the civilian population in areas of conflict.

The fourth round of talks in Caracas has had more setbacks than advancements that could make one envision a peace agreement. The delegations will continue to discuss the basic points on 5 November.

Today the CNGSB reiterated that if there is a chance for reaching an agreement, it is willing to extend the deadline it established, which expires on 10 November.

Presidential Adviser Comments

PA0611235991 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Telephone interview with Presidential Peace Adviser Jesus Antonio Bejarano by an unidentified reporter in Caracas; date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] The media has created some confusion and inaccurate views regarding the talks between the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board and the Colombian Government in Caracas. While some media have reported an imminent agreement, others are pessimistic and even defeatist. On the line, we have Dr. Jesus Antonio Bejarano, presidential adviser and head of the Colombian delegation to the talks. The Public Order Advisory Commission will fly to Venezuela this weekend. Good morning, Dr. Bejarano. What exactly is your mission?

[Bejarano] Good morning. I will try to explain in the most accurate manner the status of the talks in this stage, during which we had two goals. One was to make an assessment of the commitments made during the talks; I do not mean just those agreements made between both

sides but also those commitments of a unilateral nature. We are making this assessment, which will set down in black and white the status of the peace process. Our other goal was to try to set down in black and white the 15, there are now 15, points for a cease-fire formula. We made some remarks on this yesterday. Dr. Figueroa, an international witness, will present a summary of the stances and all the points related to the cease-fire and try to establish which points we agree on; which ones we disagree on; and how we can advance. I want to add that the disagreements over a cease-fire are still so great that it is unlikely that we will reach an agreement this week. We are also working on analyzing the commitments. We are analyzing those things pledged by the government and the guerrillas at or away from the negotiating table. If we agree on our analysis, the advisory commission will come here over the weekend to endorse in our name the document with the analysis of the commitment, which certainly cannot be described as an agreement. As for the cease-fire, it is unlikely that we will reach a definitive agreement. We can probably identify several points on which we already agree but disagreements would surely emerge. For instance, we are still far from agreeing on the areas where the guerrillas would assemble. This is the current situation in Caracas.

[Reporter] As you said, it is unlikely that an agreement on a cease-fire will be reached during the week. Will the talks continue next week? What is the planned schedule?

[Bejarano] We are all set to resume the talks. We have pointed out that we are willing to continue the talks if we see that we can make some headway. We proposed 23 November as the deadline for closing this stage. The guerrillas, however, proposed 10 November. We will not quarrel over the date. For the time being, the date is 10 November, as requested by the guerrillas, who are interested in closing this stage more or less quickly. Of course, there should not be any trouble extending the talks if there is a possibility of making progress in the cease-fire discussion. The deadline was set for 10 November. The possibility for an extension remains open.

[Reporter] Dr. Bejarano, is it true that the Caracas talks will end and be transferred to another country, which could be Costa Rica or Mexico, early next year?

[Bejarano] We have not discussed this. It is understood that changing the venue of the talks should be agreed upon. This subject has not been brought up at the negotiating table. The probable date and site for resuming the talks has not been proposed either. Yes, I have heard some reports that the talks might be transferred to Costa Rica or Mexico. The truth is, however, that this subject has not been brought up or discussed at all in the talks.

[Reporter] Why are the guerrillas in a hurry to end this stage despite the government's desire to extend the talks to 23 November?

[Bejarano] I will not interpret their stance. It is up to the guerrillas. In the beginning, prior to resuming the talks and discussing the date, they said the deadline should be before 23 November because they had to hold consultations with the guerrillas in Colombia on the status of the negotiations. We decided we would not start an argument over dates and accepted the proposed deadline.

[Reporter] You have described the points where progress was made and on which agreements were reached and also those points that caused difficulties. Can we say that the talks are going well and in the right direction? What is the true situation?

[Bejarano] The truth is that it is very difficult to assess the outlook. I would not dare describe the situation as optimistic or pessimistic. There is undoubtedly great uncertainty because we cannot judge the scope of the disagreements and what lies behind them. The central point in this cease-fire discussion was always concerned with where the guerrillas will rally. The government is convinced that a cease-fire without the establishment of a specific area, regardless of its size, would make it impossible to verify the cease-fire. We think verification of the cease-fire gives firmness to the process. The guerrillas have refused any proposal to establish a specific area in the initial stage. They say this should be discussed later. We say, however, that if a specific area is not established, this would have tremendous implications. There are a number of ambiguous items. For instance, we thought the public force subject had been clarified. Now it does not seem to be clear. The same thing with the guarantees for the civilian population. They must be more specific. We can sense that, with the cease-fire, they want to touch upon a series of subjects on the general agenda. Consequently, I would not say the situation is optimistic or pessimistic. These things change rapidly. For now, we know that it is very unlikely for us to agree on a cease-fire formula.

Peru

President Fujimori Appoints Cabinet Members

PA0611235791 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2205 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] Lima, 6 Nov (EFE)—The government's press office has announced that Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori appointed Alfonso de los Heros as new president of the Council of Ministers, ratified six ministers in their posts, transferred three ministers to other ministries, and appointed five new cabinet members.

In this manner, Fujimori constituted his third cabinet in 15 months, ending an eight-day government crisis following the resignation of Carlos Torres y Torres, the previous president of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, after 260 days in his post.

Fujimori appointed Alfonso de los Heros, a 52-year old lawyer, as president of the Council of Ministers. De los Heros was also ratified in his post as labor minister.

Here is the new Peruvian Government, which has 14 ministers:

President of the Council of Ministers an Labor Minister (ratified)	Alonso de los Heros Perez Albela
Minister of Foreign Relations	Augusto Blacker Miller
Minister of Economy and Finance	Carlos Bolona Behr (ratified)
Minister of Interior	General Juan Briones Davila
Minister of Justice	Fernando Vega Santagadea
Minister of Defense	General Victor Malca Villanueva (former minister of interior)
Minister of Education	Augusto Antoniolli Vasquez (former minister of justice)
Minister of Agriculture	Enrique Rossl Link (ratified)
Minister of Housing and Construction	Guillermo del Solar Rojas (ratified)
Minister of Transportation & Communications	Alfonso Ross Antezana
Minister of Energy & Mines	Jaime Yoshiyama Tanaka (former minister of transportation)
Minister of Industry, Commerce, Tourism and Integration	Victor Joy Way Rojas (ratified)
Minister of Public Health	Victor Paredes Rojas
Minister of Fisheries	Jaime Agustin Soberto Taira (ratified)

The 14 Peruvian ministers, aside from Generals Malca and Briones, are all independent professionals, except for new Public Health Minister Victor Paredes, who was president of the Chamber of Deputies and is the first militant of Fujimori's party, Change 90, to occupy a position in the current administration.

Deputy Discloses 'Plot' Against Cuban Government

PY0611232691 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 31 Oct 91 p 6

[Text] Mariateguist Unified Party Deputy Ricardo Letts disclosed on 30 October a plot against Cuban Fidel Castro's government. The plot was being planned in Miraflores.

On the occasion, Letts showed a letter without signatures or seals that arrived at his office. The letter invites him to a meeting, which will be held on 8 November, to support a so-called "Lima declaration" requesting the replacement of the Cuban Government.

The letter states the meeting will be at the Miraflores municipality assembly hall and that it would be attended by "figures of the intellectual, cultural, political, and journalistic areas" and exiled Cuban groups.

Letts also received the text of the "Lima declaration," which practically proposes the establishment of a Cuban provisional government, amnesty for Cuban political prisoners, and modifications to the regulations that forbid the implementation of a multiparty policy in the country.

Letts said that to hold such a meeting would be to meddle in Cuban domestic affairs and clearly violates international rules and treaties.

He, therefore, suggested that a formal clarification be requested from the Miraflores mayor and that he be urged not to get involved in this type of activity.

Country To Fight Guerrilla Propaganda in Europe

PY0611144491 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 29 Oct 91 p A9

[Text] The Foreign Ministry will soon implement a wide-ranging plan in Europe to neutralize Shining Path propaganda in cities such as Paris and London, where the group has sought to distort the government's image and attract supporters for the criminal movement. The Foreign Ministry plan will include media campaigns, meetings with government officials, and contacts with popular organizations.

Eduardo Martinetti, the Foreign Ministry's director of dissemination, has reported that Peruvian embassies abroad will intensify their propaganda actions in Europe, where supporters of Abimael Guzman have attempted to appear as "guerrillas of freedom," distorting their bloody actions.

The official said that "it is a long-range effort" because the Maoist group has assembled a complex information dissemination structure with the help of the goodwill of the EC, which regards guerrilla actions as a continuation of colonial rebellion, which is how such actions have been portrayed.

After pointing out that the Shining Path has good advisers, Martinetti said the terrorist group has aimed its propaganda at some European circles such as the Irish Republican Army (IRA), which supports the outlawed movement.

He said that the Foreign Ministry's effort to neutralize Shining Path propaganda has been made exceedingly difficult thus far because Shining Path activities in Europe (fund raising campaigns, dissemination of propaganda, etc.) are not illegal.

The official added that the false image that the movement has projected has been strongly promoted by superficial handling of reports in our country because some media have referred to Abimael Guzman's followers as "guerrillas" and have identified their organization as the Communist Party of Peru (PCP).

He added that international news agencies have helped spread that image.